

Health & Fitness

Information to help you combat stress, cancer and hidden poisons.

Special Section, Pages 2-6B



Local aviation enthusiasts take Lakeland airport by storm for annual 'Sun 'n Fun' gala.

Community, Page 1B

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The Sea Coast Echo

Since 1892

VOL. 111, NO. 31 BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

WWW.SEACOASTECHO.COM

TWO SECTIONS, 26 PAGES

75 CENTS

Thursday
April 18, 2002

Hancock High School Talons' Spring Finale

The Hancock High School Talon Dance Team will present its annual Spring Finale in the HHS Commons April 20 at 7 p.m. Tickets may be purchased from dance team members in advance (students \$3, adults \$5) or at the door (students \$4, adults \$6).

Hope Haven to host garage sale Saturday

Hope Haven will be hosting a "garage sale" in the vacant lot beside The Bungalow at 126 Main St. in Bay St. Louis on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the sale will feature a large array of material selling for \$1-\$2 a yard, Christmas and hand crafted items and more.

'Paws in the Pass' to launch on April 27

The Humane Society of South Mississippi will sponsor "Paws in the Pass" beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 27.

What's Inside

Editorial Page 4A
Obituaries Page 8A
Sports Pages 10-11A
Classified Pages 7-11B

TIDES

DAY HIGH LOW
Sun. 6:23 a. 2:02 p.
Mon. 6:23 a. 2:02 p.
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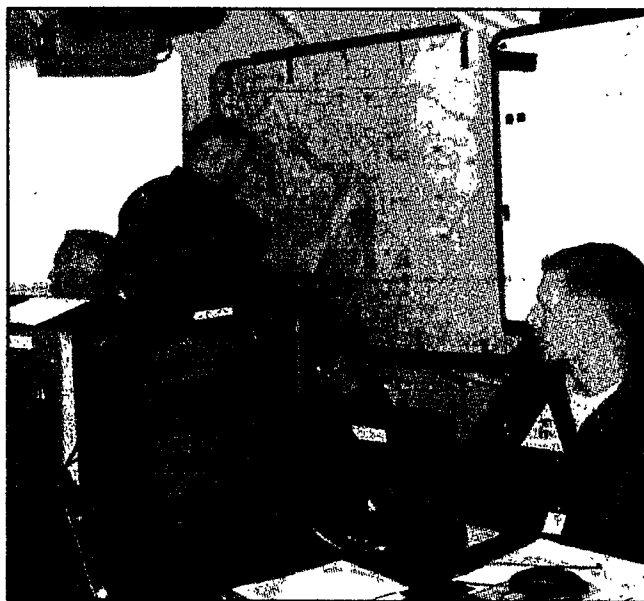
Members of the media board a Bell 4-12 Air Center Helicopter piloted by Roy Jackson Tuesday en route to the USS Cape St. George, a Ticonderoga-class AEGIS-guided missile cruiser. Media representatives were invited to board the Cape St. George about 20 miles out in the Gulf to view training exercises.

Media invited to witness use of new technologies during 'war games' in Gulf

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Warfare is not what it used to be. Today, it is state of the art technology, with battles fought and won in computerized control rooms sometimes far from the actual battle. Although new technology can save lives, it must be tested thoroughly before being put to the final

WAR--PAGE 6A



Military personnel at the Air National Guard Base in Gulfport, taking part in exercises Tuesday to test new technology and help train personnel to avoid so-called "friendly fire" accidents.

Drowned toddler on life support

Girl revived, but critical after fall into yard pond

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

A Hancock County 14-month-old girl is in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Ochsner Hospital in New Orleans in critical condition following a fall into a pond around 5 p.m. Tuesday, according to Hancock County Sheriff Steve Garber.

"Bayle Hattaway, daughter of Michelle Varnado, Hayward Ladner Road in the Rocky Hill area north of Kiln, was found by her mother in the pond around 5 p.m. She and a friend administered CPR and called 911," Garber said.

Garber, who said he lives just a few minutes from the residence, responded to the scene in addition to the Post 58 Fire Rescue Unit, AMR, Sheriff's Deputies Stacy Wilson and Terry Necaise and Investigators Kenny Hurt and Rita Blaize-Watson.

Garber said, "Hattaway was rushed by

DROWNED--PAGE 6A

5 hurt, car split in Hwy. 603 crash

BY GEOFF BELCHER
News Editor

Five Hancock County residents were injured Sunday, one of them critically, when two vehicles collided on Hwy. 603 near Thompson's Seafood - and one of the vehicles split in half.

According to information released by Sgt. Joe Gazzo, information officer for the Mississippi Highway Patrol, the accident occurred at around 6:40 p.m. Sunday

CRASH--PAGE 6A

Beachfront Wal-Mart okayed in Pass despite hardcore opposition

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

A beachfront Wal-Mart Super Center is coming to Pass Christian, and Mayor Billy McDonald say he's happy with final design plans.

Plans to construct a 188,000-square-foot retail facility steamrolled through city channels during two hearings earlier this week.

A hardcore group of opponents turned out at city hall Tuesday night when the

Mayor and Board of Aldermen heard a final presentation from developers, but after hearing debate for and against, the five-member Board upheld the Planning Commission's recommendations and voted unanimously to rezone the land north of the beachfront property from "R-2-Multi-family Residential" to "C-3-Commercial to accommodate the development.

As he did in the Monday night public hearing, design

engineer David Duplantis told the audience Wal-Mart paid attention to concerns voiced by the mayor and others about the outward design of the giant store.

"It's not going to be your typical Wal-Mart," he said. He explained the facade of the building will be earth-toned, ranging from light to dark tan, with architectural details. The building will contain a general merchan-

WAL-MART--PAGE 13A



It was standing room only Tuesday evening at Pass Christian City Hall as residents showed up to protest plans for a beachfront Wal-Mart.

National leaders meet at Stennis

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

More than 70 aerospace industry leaders from around the nation met at the Stennis Space Center this week to learn more about the center's unique rocket engine test capabilities as part of NASA's Propulsion Test Customer Day 2002.

Throughout the two-day event, engineers and technicians listened to comments from industry leaders and answered their questions regarding test capabilities at Stennis.

Stennis Space Center, America's largest rocket test complex, has a long history in rocket propulsion testing.

In the 1960s the center tested the rocket boosters that took Americans to the Moon. Today, the center remains at the forefront of space exploration by testing the powerful main engines that lift the Space Shuttle on its 82-minute flight to orbit.

Though rocket engine testing for the government has been the main focus of the center, new business opportunities for commercial customers exist across all platforms of operation within each test area of the A-, B- and E-complexes.

The A-Complex is currently being used to test and flight certify the Space Shuttle Main Engines; however, test operations are also available to the aerospace industry. Stennis has adopted novel approaches to take advantage of the unique test capabilities at the center. For example, NASA has signed an unprecedented 20-year lease with the Boeing Company to use the B-1 test stand for testing their RS-68 engine that will power their Delta IV rocket.

"We offer rocket engine developers a spectrum of options in testing their hardware," said NASA's Richard Gilbrech, chief, Project Management Office in the Propulsion Test

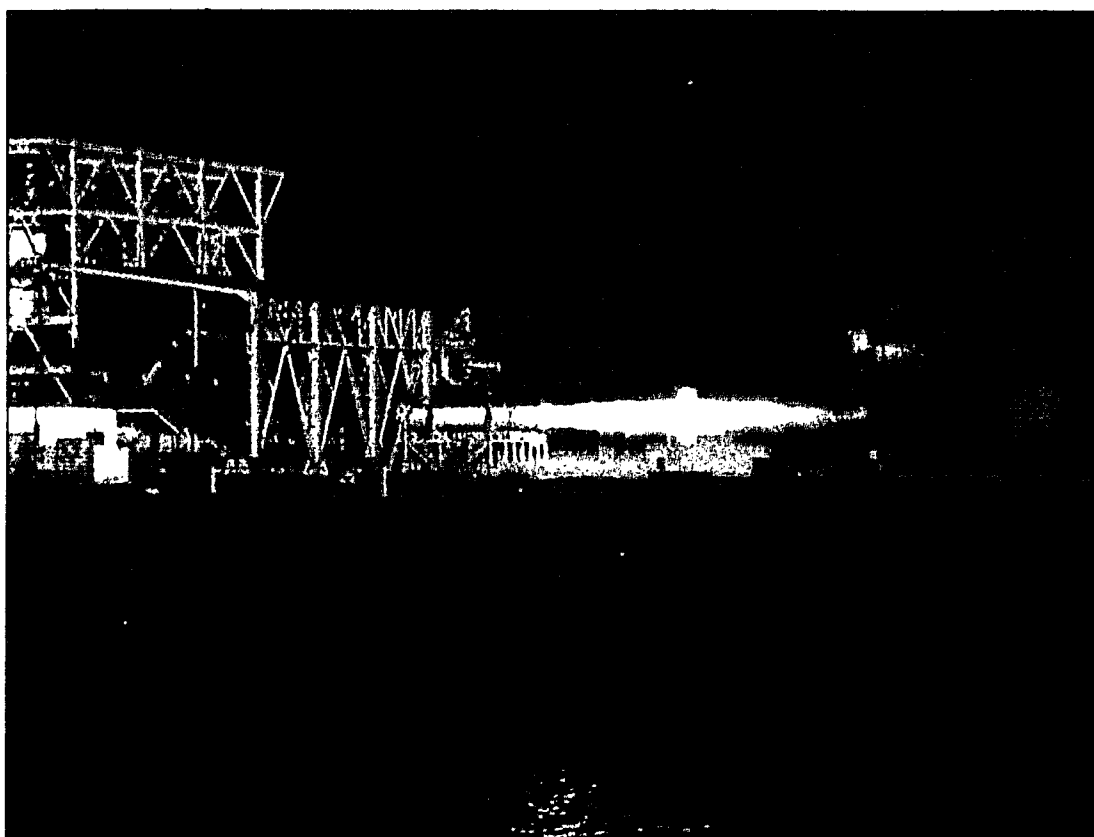


Photo courtesy of NASA

More than 70 aerospace industry leaders and media from around the nation met at the Stennis Space Center April 16-17 to learn more about the center's unique rocket engine test capabilities as part of NASA's Propulsion Test Customer Day 2002. The John C. Stennis Space Center is NASA's program manager for rocket propulsion testing. This photo is of a hot-fire test of the 250,000-pound thrust hybrid rocket motor conducted earlier this year. The motor was designed, fabricated and prepared for testing by an industry consortium consisting of Stennis customers Lockheed Martin Astronautics, Boeing Rocketdyne, Lockheed Martin Michoud Space Systems, Thiokol Corporation and United Technologies Chemical Systems Division.

Directorate at Stennis. "This can range from simply being the landlord, as we are with The Boeing Company's RS-68 program, to providing turn-key test article assembly, checkout and hot-fire. As a neutral test agent, we can lower everyone's test costs by sharing overhead between competitors while protecting competitive interests."

The E-Complex is Stennis' developmental rocket engine component test facility comprised of three test stands with seven separate test cells. It is the center's most active facility.

Currently, there are 10 projects being tested, including programs in direct competition with one another for development of second-generation reusable launch vehicles. Both Pratt and Whitney and The Boeing Company are testing pre-burners for the COBRA

and the RS-83 development engines as part of NASA's Space Launch Initiative (SLI). SLI is NASA's effort to reduce the risk associated with developing a second-generation reusable launch vehicle by defining, developing and testing technologies needed to improve safety and reduce NASA's mission price.

"We encourage propulsion test customers to visit Stennis Space Center any time. To have more than 70 current and potential customers, some of whom have never visited us before, is a special opportunity," said Robert Bruce, chief, New Business Development Office, Propulsion Test Directorate, organizer of Customer Day 2002. "This type interchange allows us to showcase our capabilities, ask customers what potential test requirements they may have, and for

input on what type test capabilities will best meet their needs, both current and future. We plan to conduct this event annually, and next year's event is already scheduled for February 25-26, 2003."

The unique capabilities provided by the propulsion test facilities at Stennis can also be an asset to the local economy.

"Stennis Space Center is building on our experience and capability in the rocket testing business," Stennis Deputy Director Mark Craig said.

"Using our substantial propulsion test assets that were paid for by taxpayers, Stennis is supporting American industry in capturing world launch markets and thereby creating jobs which bolster our economy."

Multiple Sclerosis Walk Saturday in Waveland

Many exciting events can be enjoyed once every year. Think about the list: your birthday, anniversary, the Waveland Coleman Avenue Spring Clean Fling Thing, the 13th annual Crawfish Cookoff and the MS Walk in Waveland April 20 at 10 a.m.

If that last one does not sound familiar, you have been missing out on one of the great annual events. But don't worry; it is never too late to start a new tradition.

This year the Mississippi Division of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society will hold its annual walk on Saturday in Waveland beginning at city hall.

The walk presents an opportunity for you to help the 1500 plus people in Mississippi with MS. The society is always looking for first-time walkers and volunteers to join the legions of seasoned veterans.

"The walk is very important to our organization," said Jennifer Cotner, development specialist. "Every year it helps raise the money we need to fund break-through research as well as programs for people with MS."

Past research has led to the development of five drugs for the treatment of

Multiple Sclerosis, Avonex, Betaseron, Copaxone, Rebif, and Novatrone.

If anyone you know is diagnosed with the most common form of MS, they should see a physician about one of these treatments.

"This year's walk has two goals. In addition to raising funds for research and client programs, we are trying to educate people with MS about the option of these drug treatments," she added.

To raise the funds necessary for the continuation of such research and empowering programs for people with MS, walkers collect pledges for completing the route.

This year's course includes walkers enjoying each other's company as well as the rest stops and dedicated supporters that they run into along the route.

Sixty cents of every dollar raised from the walk will stay in the community to help the 1500-plus people with MS. The rest goes toward research and national programs for people with MS.

Multiple sclerosis is a chronic and often disabling disease of the central nervous system. People with

MS, which is usually diagnosed between the ages of 20-24, face unpredictable symptoms that can range from numbness and blurred vision to paralysis and blindness.

Because of its unpredictability, the age at which it manifests itself, and the fact that over 70% of people with MS are women, the disease often has a devastating impact on families.

People with MS are often young mothers worrying about whether or not they will be physically able to raise their children or continue their careers.

The National MS Society supports programs that help ensure people with MS will live their lives with as little disruption as possible.

The society advocates for the empowerment of people with MS.

With all of its efforts in research and programs, the National MS Society is dedicated to ending the devastating effects of MS. Since its inception, the walk alone has raised over \$100 million toward MS research and programs for people with MS.

If you would like to know more about multiple sclerosis, the Walk or the Society, contact the Mississippi Division of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society at (601) 856-7575.

For information, contact Debra Hartsel at Flash Comm. Diamondhead at 228-586-2020 or 228-365-5524.

Volunteers sought to aid hospice patients, families

Quality Hospice of the Gulf Coast, Inc. is looking for volunteers to join their team in assisting patients and their families.

Hospice is a team approach that includes nurses, nursing aids, med-

ical social workers and volunteers. For details, call Susan Rappold at 374-4434 or 1-800-777-4279.

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COMMENTS:

Eugene has had nearly fourteen years to improve his grades, but has failed and should be expelled November 5th!

Source: 11/14/02 Internet Search by Organization

Dr. Karl Mertz, Republican

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Wal-

dise area, grocery store, lube and a

Duplant was pushed out of the lot facing the order to clear the buffer from

The front parcel facing between H Hayden St. zoned commercial rear of the 10 acres, was tial.

Duplant will require an enter and Holiday D. entire site escaped with where the would be the large rounding r

McDona Wednesday with the design and truck and

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He explained Wal-Mart allowed the Holiday D. past the road would

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Wal-Mart mated t inland and would be \$12 million

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Prizes \$25 and will be g painted t

Wal-Mart -- Pass Christian

Continued from Page 1A

dise area, a garden store, a grocery store and a tire and lube and auto repair center.

Duplantis said the store was pushed forward on the lot facing the beachfront in order to create more of a buffer from residences.

The front 15 acres of the parcel facing the beachfront between Holiday Drive and Hayden Street was already zoned commercial, but the rear of the property, about 10 acres, was zoned residential.

Duplantis said Wal-Mart will require large truck to enter and exit only on Holiday Drive. He said the entire site will be landscaped with raised berms where trees and hedges would be planted to buffer the large store from surrounding residences.

McDonald said Wednesday he was pleased with the final building design and plan to control truck and vehicular traffic.

"I think the Wal-Mart representatives did a good job, and listened to people's concerns," said McDonald. He explained trucks servicing Wal-Mart would not be allowed to exit north on Holiday Drive because just past the service area, the road would be designated a "No Truck Route." He said trucks will turn around in the rear service area behind Wal-Mart and exit back on to U.S. Hwy. 90.

Wal-Mart officials estimated the investment inland and the building would be between \$10 and \$12 million.

Estimated sales tax from the Super Center would range between \$880,000 and \$1 million yearly, they said.

About 50 people showed up for the Tuesday night meeting, compared to more than 150 who turned out

Monday night.

Most of the frustration or anger of opponents was vented Monday night in a more than three-hour meeting of the seven-member City Planning Commission.

The council chamber was overflowing, and some citizens stood against the walls or in the doorways while others stood outside on the porch, sometimes peering through windows to get a look at who was speaking. A public address system allowed those outside the chambers to hear the comments.

Although some comments were blistering, there did not appear to be any organized opposition. Before the meeting began, residents were asked to sign in on several sheets of paper stationed at a table outside the meeting chamber.

At the outset of the meeting, Commission Chairman Dayton Robinson asked if any of the opposing groups was represented by an attorney, and no one came forward.

Then, Robinson said he would hear in rotation comments from those living within 160-feet of the development who opposed the Wal-Mart, then comments from those living within 160-feet of the Super Center, who favored the project.

Afterwards, Robinson opened up comments from the general audience for or against. He asked speakers to limit their comments to three minutes, and a buzzer reminded those who went over the time limit to wrap things up.

Weda Tanner, who lives with her husband, James, in a historical house on E. Second Street, said the building would be directly behind her house. "I'm

against having it in my back yard," she said. She worried how the Wal-Mart would affect adjoining property values.

Alan Dubuison said he basically favored the project, but he owned a house on Holiday Drive. He said he wondered how the residential area and its property values would be affected during and after construction.

A resident of the Riviera Condo Apartment on E. Beach, said he was upset when he first heard Wal-Mart might build on the beach near his home. "But, now, I'm going to have a heart attack," he said. He said he was concerned by statements Duplantis made that Wal-Mart planned to lease one front lot, and it could be a service station/convenience store.

He said he was worried about a possible explosion, but he was also concerned about added truck and vehicle traffic the giant store would bring, the glare from lighted parking lots and noise.

When asked a question by one Commissioner, he asked, "Are you the mayor? I want to know who not to vote for."

Anna Taylor, another resident of E. Second, said, "A Wal-Mart Super Center does not belong in a residential neighborhood."

Although large delivery trucks are prohibited on Second Street, Sue Ling, said some truckers will still come off Beatline Road to Second, then to the Wal-Mart. "I love Wal-Mart. We just don't need you here," she said.

Ling said she thought the presence of Wal-Mart would hurt downtown businesses, which include many small, specialty stores.

John Collins, a resident of Holiday Drive, warned, "The future is in your hands." He said if planners choose to let a "mega-retailer" come into the area, it would destroy the quality of life, and bring in outsiders, crime and drugs.

Ella Broome of Grayson Avenue said she was in favor of the Wal-Mart because it would increase the city's tax base and the new revenue would benefit education.

Another Pass resident, George Watson, said he lived behind the Sav-A-Center on St. Louis and Henderson and close to the assisted living home on St. Louis.

He said the city's property tax base can no longer sustain city services. "We need something here," said Watson. He said citizens should choose industry over higher taxes.

"We need more money to sustain this town. If we don't take 'em, Long Beach will," said Watson.

Patricia Spinks said she lives in Gulfport, but her elderly mother lived in the Pass. "She survived Camille, but I don't think she can survive a Wal-Mart," she said.

Sally Weber said she and her family moved to the Pass from Seattle, Washington, two and-a-half years ago because they were attracted to the "quaint and beautiful area." She said the city does not need a Wal-Mart, and especially, the beach.

"There are other means to finance city needs," she said. "There must be a better solution."

Resident Mason Gordon said higher use of the land is a basic principle of economic development.

"This is no way to develop

the beachfront," he argued.

Other opponents argued a better location for a Wal-Mart could be located on large tracts of land further north, off Interstate 10.

After a 15-minute break, Duplantis came back, and offered to cut a small, pie-shaped lot fronting Hayden out of the Commercial zoning.

City Attorney Malcolm Jones gave some history of the property, telling the audience it was the site of the Old Moonlight Drive-in, which was blown away by Hurricane Camille, and never reopened. Since, then, he said the Beachcomber Lounge opened fronting the highway nearby, and two condo complexes have been developed. (Owners of the Beachcomber lounge have agreed to sell, but the vacant Stuffed Shirt factory and the veterinarian office fronting the beach will not be part of the development).

Jones said the majority of the land zoned R-2A to the

rear of the property has never developed into a multi-residential area, despite its residential zoning.

He added the city's consulting engineer, John Campton, had informed the Mayor that the current sewerage collection system was inadequate to handle additional multi-family dwellings in the area without an interceptor line that would cost the city about \$1 million to install.

However, Jones said, Campton reported the present lines could handle a large-scale commercial development, such as Wal-Mart.

Jones said present city ordinances could be enforced to keep large trucks off Second Street and Hayden Street. Other city ordinance require lights to be directed away from homes, landscaping of the property to provide a buffer from nearby residences and fencing, he said.

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Echo staff photo by Geoff Belcher

Hancock County Sheriff's deputies Matt Barnett and Mary "Izzy" Caster take fingerprints from five-year-old Shawn Terrance Breeland Tuesday at the Save Our Children Center in Bay St. Louis. The event was part of the department's Child Identification program. Also on Tuesday, Sheriff Steve Garber spoke to the Save Our Children participants about staying in school, staying off drugs and setting and meeting goals.

Celebrate the earth and 'spruce up the avenue'

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

It's a pick-up, paint-up, kites-up day on Coleman Avenue Saturday, April 20.

What better way to celebrate the earth than to spend a beautiful day outdoors?

Scheduled events include an early morning cleanup at 9, trash can painting contest at 10 a.m., music and karaoke by Terry Koehn from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and kite-fly at 3 p.m. on the beach.

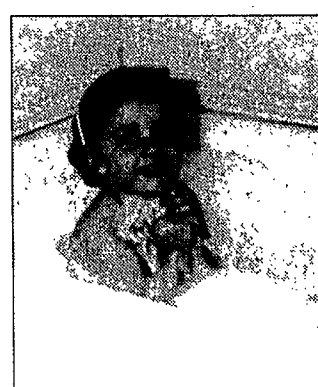
Prizes of \$75, \$50 and \$25 and two merit awards will be given for the best-painted trash cans.

Souvenir buttons will be given to all participants.

"Last year's event was a wonderful family day on Coleman Avenue, and the cans that were painted proved to be a very effective and artful way of keeping 'the avenue' free of trash," said Coleman Avenue Coalition president Kathy Pinn.

Pete Witty of Wellman Industries donated the trash cans. Because there are a limited number of them to paint, please register and reserve your can now by stopping by any shop on Coleman Avenue or by calling 467-3922.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2002

OPINION

pg 4A



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

Don't forget the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce April Business After Hours set for 5 to 7 this evening sponsored by Accelerated Physical Therapy & Occupational Health, Inc., 833 Highway 90, Bay St. Louis, behind Rainbow Cafe.

Be sure to bring along a couple of business cards, because there will be some drawings for door prizes.

The monthly Chamber After Hours is a great time to renew friendships and make new ones.

I hope to see you at the After Hours this evening

This is also one of those times of the year when there are so many things happening and many of them at the same time.

It is just a busy time for many folks. Many activities are underway for our youngsters at playgrounds, in addition to many activities to help others and some benefits for very worthy causes.

On Monday, the 13th annual Red Beans & Rice Cook-Off is set from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hancock County Civic Center.

The teams have all gotten together, and this weekend there will be lots of red-bean-cooking going on.

This is a great American Cancer Society benefit, and it is one where everyone in the community can participate.

The general public can help by having lunch at the Cook-Off, and it is all for a donation of \$6 each person, and you can eat all the red beans and rice you desire.

By the way, I never realized there were so many varieties of recipes for red beans. The secret ingredients contain just about everything. Main ingredients can be ham, beef,

shrimp, crabs, turkey, lamb, a combination of the above, and probably more in addition to many seasonings.

There should be some good cornbread around, too, as this year there will be a new award offered for the Best Cornbread.

You can drop by and enjoy the fun of the Cook-Off Monday at the Hancock County Civic Center, Longfellow Road, next to the Human Services Complex.

Team Captains need to remember the meeting this evening at 5 at the Hancock County Board of Supervisors Room in the courthouse.

General chairman Jimmie Ladner, Jr., reports there will be bean distribution and other general information at this meeting.

On Saturday, big things will be happening on Coleman Avenue in Waveland.

"Spruce up the Avenue" will take place with a day of activities sponsored by the Coleman Avenue Coalition. A rain day has been set for April 27.

There will be a Spring Clean-Up, Trash Can Painting Contest, Kite Fly, and other activities.

Activities begin at 8 a.m. with registration in front of Ashman-Mollere Realty. Clean-Up at 9 a.m., Painting Contest from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Kite Fly at 3 p.m.

In the painting contest, there will be \$75 professional, \$50 amateur, \$25 kids prizes and two merit awards and buttons for all participants.

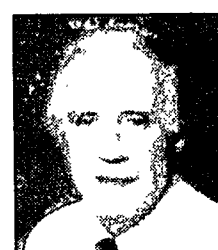
Last year in the can painting contest, there were 25 barrels painted, and they are still in use by the City of Waveland to help keep litter from the streets.

It was great fun, and all participants had a great time. For further information, call 467-3922.

New sources of tax revenue must be found

If Mississippians thought the 2002 Legislature avoided a train wreck in state governmental services with some last-minute financial patchwork, they'd better look at what's just ahead down the tracks.

There lies the BIG TRAIN WRECK. And, it's going to happen, as sure as the sun rises, unless some really serious repair work is done to replenish the revenue stream that runs the train.



Eyes on Mississippi

By Bill Minor

In the 1990s economic boom years, the state's tax structure, without any increases, provided plenty of money to run state government.

And even expand Medicaid to cover more of the state's poor people, raise teachers' salaries in increments close to the Southeast average, and take care of some other long-time unmet social needs.

But the boom days are over, and they're not coming back, certainly not within

the next five years.

In the meantime, what do we do? Go backwards? Stop the teacher pay raises, throw Grandma out of her nursing home and thousands of others off Medicaid, cut back on already-strapped higher education, shut down some prisons, park Highway Patrol cars?

Or violate a moral commitment to spend only the earnings from a multi-million dollar tobacco trust fund handed to us in the late 1990's from the lawsuit against Big Tobacco, which, incidentally, most lawmakers opposed filing?

That's a dark scenario.

but anyone who is realistic about the state's anticipated revenues and what is needed within one year to prevent a huge crisis in the funding of public education, higher education, corrections, public safety, AND, of course, Medicaid, know it's a true picture.

All that kept the crash from happening this time was the lawmakers' desperate use of "one-time" money, grabbed out of special funds set aside from fees by a number of regulatory agencies; accelerating monthly collection of sales taxes from merchants, and taking

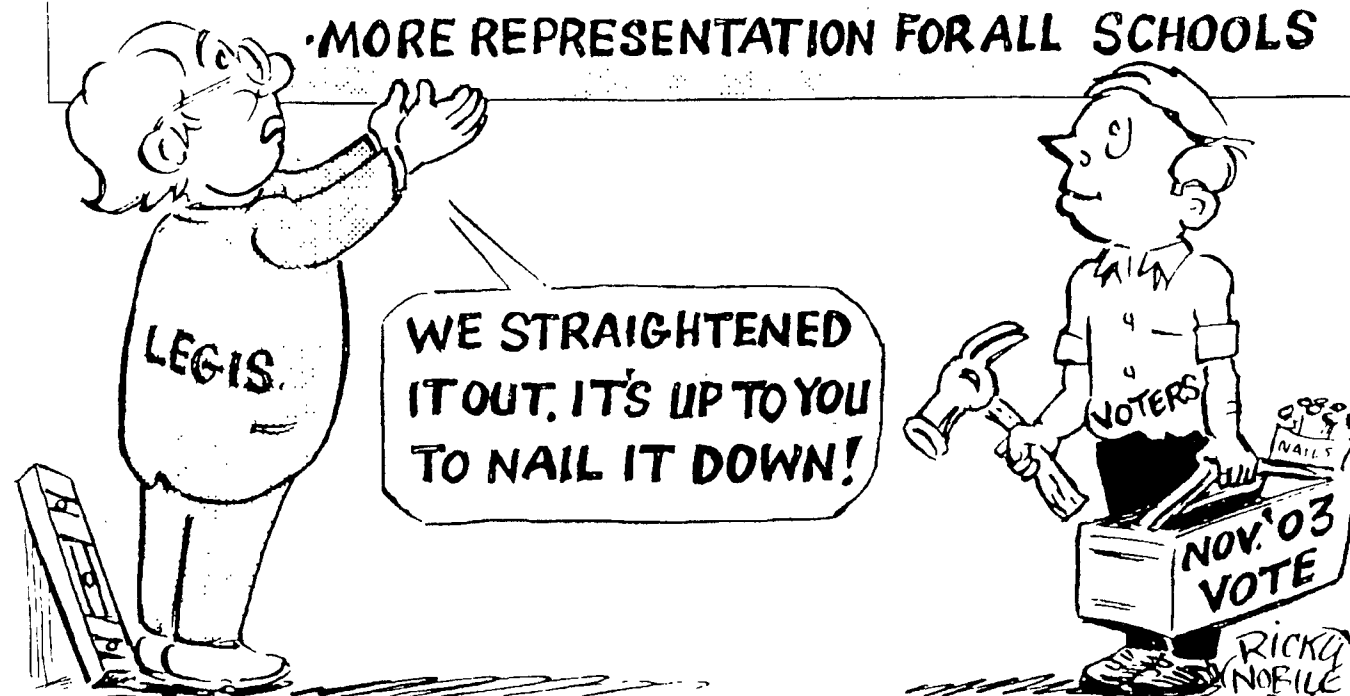
MINOR--PAGE 5A

COLLEGE BOARD CHANGES

MEMBERS CHOSEN FROM SUPREME COURT DISTRICTS

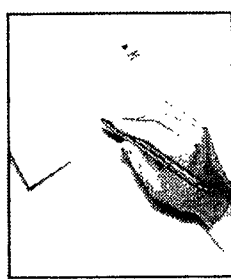
TERMS CHANGED FROM 12 YEARS TO 9 YEARS

MORE REPRESENTATION FOR ALL SCHOOLS



Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.



Tell DEQ we don't want to be the nation's trash dump

Dear Editor,
On April 25, 2002 an important decision will be made at the Department of Environmental Quality.

The Commission will have the opportunity to deny a rubbish landfill from accepting waste from all over the nation.

Citizens could take a minute and help us keep Mississippi from becoming the waste dump for the nation.

This landfill was originally permitted and installed for the purpose of disposing of local waste, for which we already need more room.

The EPA has projected that Mississippi's landfills will reach capacity within 7 to 10 years even if they receive trash that is generated only in Mississippi.

As good landfill sites have become full, there has been increasing pressure on more and more communities to accept unwanted landfills.

At the public meeting, it was understood that a com-

pany in Connecticut wishes to ship 1,000 tons of waste EACH DAY to Mississippi.

Presumably, all the states that are closer to Connecticut past on the opportunity.

I seriously doubt that any of our neighboring states will be willing to accept Mississippi's waste when our properly located landfills are full.

Furthermore, we don't have the money to pay for shipping our trash out-of-state the way some other states do. Everyone should keep his or her waste local.

We need citizens contacting their Commission members, including Bill Whitfield, P.O. Box 2237, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521 (228-255-1870).

Let them know how you would like them to vote on ANY AND ALL landfill permit applications seeking to offer "nationwide" service.

Sincerely,
James A. Garner
Madison, Miss.



Ask The V.A.

by Donald Mauffray
CVSO

Law increases veterans' benefits for burial costs

Under a new law, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will increase reimbursement for funeral expenses and cemetery plots for service-disabled veterans and provide government markers for veterans' graves even if families already have installed private markers.

The Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001 increases the burial and funeral expense allowance for veterans who die as a result of a service-connected disability from \$1,500 to \$2,000; and the cemetery plot allowance, for certain other disabled veterans, from \$150 to \$300.

The law also directs VA to honor requests for government markers for veterans buried in private cemeteries even if their graves have headstones or markers furnished at private expense.

Previous law prevented VA from providing markers in that situation. These increases are among many provisions of Public Law 107-103 that expand other veterans' benefits.

Approximately 9,800

families receive funeral expense reimbursement for service-connected deaths each year. The \$500 increase in the funeral reimbursement, the first since 1988, is expected to increase the government's cost by about \$5 million a year. This change applies to deaths on or after December 1, 2001.

Approximately 90,000 families become eligible for the plot allowance annually. The cost of increasing the amount, which had been \$150 since 1973, will be about \$13 million a year. The higher allowance will be paid for deaths on or after December 1, 2001.

The plot allowance is paid when a veteran is buried in a non-government cemetery. The veteran must also meet one of the following three criteria: the veteran was eligible to receive VA disability compensation or a VA pension, was discharged from military service due to disability, or died in a VA hospital.

In the past, people who

MAUFFRAY--PAGE 5A

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War -- training

Continued from Page 1A

test, the battlefield.

For the next two weeks, 4,700 members of the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines, including active, reserve and guard units, as well as personnel from Britain, Germany and the Netherlands are participating in a Joint Combined Identification Evaluation Team (JCET 2002), to test existing, emerging and future technological advances to be used on future battlefields. The exercise provides the opportunity for personnel to experience the "connective tissue" of modern warfare, where both the systems and the various branches of the military work together.

The area of operation encompasses five different sites from Mississippi to Florida and includes two U.S. ships and one British ship stationed in the Gulf.

Many new technologies help identify friendly forces and enemy targets which helps reduce fratricide, deaths resulting from friendly fire, as a result of identification problems in a combat environment. Technologies which enhance homeland defense are also in the making. Much of the

technology being tested at the operation was top secret and unavailable for viewing.

During the two week exercise, the "war games," each weapon strike, as well as minute-by-minute aircraft positions, movement of friendly and enemy forces and all radio transmissions, are monitored and recorded by a computer network-based system that links all five sites. Information will be published in a formal report and forwarded to national decision makers and manufacturers of defense systems for review. Information will also provide feedback to participants.

Movement by troops, aircraft, and ships will be real, but strikes will be simulated.

The coast is a favorite location for the evaluations because it allows participants to fight a real life battle in a situation where they can fight their way in from the sea on to the land and then across the land, a realistic scenario for possible future theaters, said JCET Commander Col. Roger Jones.

"This is an invaluable

opportunity to test these systems in a real environment with other branches of the service participating," said Rear Admiral Kevin Cosgriff of the Navy. "Warfare depends on people and we rely on those people, with or without new technologies. Should there be a failure in technologies, than we still rely on the same highly-trained people."

As a part of the public education, media representatives were given a chance to fly in a Bell 4-12 Air center Helicopter to the Navy Ship Cape St. George, stationed some 20 miles out in the Gulf. The ship was serving as one of the bases of operation for the evaluation exercise. After landing on the deck, media representatives were given a tour of the ship, meeting its Captain Mark G. Wahlstrom.

The Cape, as she is fondly called, is a Ticonderoga-class Aegis guided missile cruiser equipped with the most advanced technology and weaponry ever put to sea, capable of sustained combat operations in any combination of air, surface, undersea, and strike warfare.

Recycling pact will cut costs

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

After wrestling for months over whether to continue recycling in parts of Hancock County, the Regional Solid Waste Authority Tuesday voted to let a new contract.

The new deal is expected to save the Authority more than \$100,000 a year and is based on a count of the actual number of people participating in recycling rather than a count of households on the garbage collection rolls.

And, beginning June 1, pickups will go from once a week to once every two weeks in Waveland, Bay St. Louis and Diamondhead, which participates in the recycling program. There is no recycling program in the rural areas of Hancock County.

Last November, the authority extended its contract with Mississippi ResorSys, Inc., of Gulfport on a month-to-month basis while it fine-tuned a proposal to put the recycling contract out to public bid.

Commissioners have long complained that the recycling program was too costly considering the amount of those participating, although they praised the benefits of the recycling. They also wanted the contractor to make more efforts to educate the public on the benefits of recycling and to get area school children

involved.

At Tuesday's meeting, consultant Bill Johnson of Compton Engineering reported eight firms picked up the bid specifications. Four firms notified Compton they decided not to submit a bid. Mississippi ResorSys, Inc., submitted the county's current recycler, submitted the only bid. Johnson reported.

The new contract offered Mississippi ResorSys, Inc., is for five years, with a one-year option to renew.

Based on the average count of participating households, estimates are yearly cost of the recycling program will average around \$110,000. Last year, with pickup once a week in the three areas, the total cost of recycling was \$240,000. The authority has actually set aside \$177,000 for recycling in this year's budget in the event participation increases.

Another option in the contract sets aside \$2,000 for public education, which might include brochures, flyers or newspaper ads to promote recycling. And, \$500-a-year is set aside for continuing education programs that might involve speaking at schools.

Authority Chairman and Bay St. Louis Mayor Eddie Favre said he and the other commissioners were very satisfied with the final contract, agreed to by Larry Kehrer, president of

Mississippi ResorSys, Inc.

"I'm very pleased," Favre said. "We've substantially cut the cost of the program, but we are continuing the recycling effort."

He said the new contract also provides incentives for the contractor to increase participation since monthly payment will be based on the actual number of bins set outside.

In a related matter, the authority heard a complaint from County Administrator Tim Kellar that Mississippi ResorSys, Inc., notified him they would no longer pick up the large amount of paper generated weekly from offices located in the downtown Hancock County Courthouse.

Kellar said, at first, pickup crews said they would not go upstairs and collect the paper generated by offices on the second floor, so he had jail trustees carry the collection barrels down to the rear of the first floor for crews to pick up. Kellar said then he was informed there would be no weekly pickup at the courthouse.

The authority asked Kehrer to reconsider, and pick up the paper, but no decision was made at the meeting.

Kehrer was also instructed to begin placing ads in the media notifying residents of the three areas involved about the day when the recycling truck would be in their area.

Continued from Page 1A

Drowned

AMR to Hancock Medical Center where they were able to find a pulse. She was later transferred to Ochsner's. The Sheriff's Department contacted Ochsner's Wednesday morning, and the little girl was reported in a critical condition."

Garber said an investigation was continuing, and apparently the little girl was playing in the yard and wandered into the pond area and fell in.

According to Sheriff Garber, the parents of the youngster are requesting everyone to keep Bayle in

their prayers.

Me and the Old Man' sporting clay tourney

There will be a father (or uncle or grandfather)-son sporting clay shooting tournament on Saturday, April 20, at 9 a.m. at the shooting range at 603 north of the red light in Kiln. Call 255-9696.

Red Cross schedules lifeguard training dates

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Chapter of the American Red Cross offers lifeguard training.

Lifeguard candidates must be 15 years old or older and pass a pre-course test consisting of a 500-yard swim using the front crawl or freestyle and the breast stroke.

They must also be able to perform a deep water retrieval and carry of a 10-pound weight.

The course is schedule for

May 11, 18, 19, and 25 and will be taught at St. Stanislaus.

All interested parties are asked to call Shawn Tusa at 467-3999 to reserve a place, as class size is limited.

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A mural a day ...



Amy Seay's third grade class at Bay Catholic Elementary School recently painted a nautical scene mural for an examining room for Dr. David Fontaine, Bay St. Louis. Pictured is Dr. Fontaine, his assistant, Teresa Givens, Amy Seay, and her class.

Crash

Continued from Page 1A

when a 1996 Thunderbird driven in the northbound lane of Hwy. 603 by Brandon Kimble, 19, crossed the median into the southbound lane and was struck in the rear by a vehicle driven by Michael Sones, 18.

Sones' vehicle had "lost control and failed to yield right away," according to the report.

The impact caused Kimble's vehicle to be torn into two parts. Sones, whose address is listed as 15121 Wilderness Lane, was ejected from his car and critically injured. Also injured was

an 18-year-old female passenger in his car, according to the MHP report.

Kimble, of Tom Bigbee St. in Bay St. Louis, suffered cuts to the head, as

did two male passengers in his vehicle.

The incident is still under investigation by officers of the Mississippi Highway Patrol.

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Curves Pantry, sented lected in phot Peggy

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Food Pantry donation



Curves for Women recently conducted a food drive for the Hancock County Food Pantry. On a local level, some 406 pounds of food was collected from members and presented to the Food Pantry. Curves International, headquartered in Waco, Texas, collected over 6 million pounds of food for local communities during the month of March. In photo, at right, is Jan Levy, owner of Curves for Women, Bay St. Louis, and Joan and Peggy of the Hancock County Food Pantry.

Bay eyes annexation plan

BY MARY G. SEILEY
Staff Writer

Extensive annexation possibilities were laid out Monday for Bay St. Louis City Council by an expert consultant from Oxford.

Mike Slaughter, a partner in the planning and consulting firm of Bridge & Slaughter, walked council members through the extensive groundwork that precedes annexations in Mississippi.

He brought along a map showing the vast annexation possibilities for Bay St. Louis to the west, potentially doubling or tripling the city's territory by enveloping lands along Highway 603.

Slaughter said if the city decides to proceed with a detailed study of the possibilities, it should not be afraid to be "overly broad" with how much territory is included in the study. It's easier to reduce the scope of an annexation effort than to add more territory to the study later, he said.

While council listened intently and asked questions, it took no official action. Several members said they'd like to have a study proposal in writing from the firm before making a decision.

Estimated to cost \$15,000 to \$20,000, the study would amass details on the land area and its structures, streets and land uses, as well as existing levels of services and facilities. The study also would analyze population estimates by race and voting age.

But one of the key sections in the study would cover the city's finances — how much it would cost to provide services to the newly annexed area and whether the city would suffer financially by expanding its borders.

"We need to look at the financial feasibility of it," Mayor Eddie Favre said Tuesday. "We don't want to raise taxes — none of us are in favor of that." Favre stressed that no decisions have been made to proceed with a study, or the extent of the territory that would be included.

The issue of annexation has popped up several times in recent years in Bay St. Louis. Property owners in a residential area off Blue Meadow Road sought to come into the city limits several years ago — only to

be snubbed because city officials feared it would represent a big financial drain.

The city only collects five mills in property taxes, and that collection is dedicated to parks and recreation, and the city-county library. But annexing developing commercial properties possibly would channel sufficient sales tax revenues to cover the costs of providing services, officials say.

"We haven't decided to annex anything," Favre said Tuesday. "It's not even in the preliminary stages. Even if we decide to go with a study, it doesn't mean anything will happen" with annexation.

Slaughter had gathered some demographic statistics, however, that indicate the city might well take a look at growth. Census figures from 1970 to 2000, for instance, show a county population explosion: from 17,387 to 42,967. Bay St. Louis, meanwhile, inched up from 6,752 residents in 1970 to 8,209 in 2000.

Housing units in the county almost tripled during the same time. In Bay St. Louis, the housing count crept up from 2,530 to 3,817. Slaughter's preliminary study showed.

The city had only three more retail businesses in 2001 than it did in 1999, the consultant's data showed.

"Demographics are definitely tied to the need for annexation," Slaughter told council members during a Monday workshop session. While it's good that Bay St. Louis didn't lose population over the past 10 years, he said, "you can see that Bay St. Louis has not captured its proportionate share of the county's population growth."

Slaughter's firm has 40 city and county clients at this time, receiving an array of professional consulting services. Annexation feasibility analysis, he said, is the firm's specialty.

If the city were to sponsor a study and decide to proceed, it would petition Chancery Court to approve the expansion. Objection to the annexation can be filed by any individual or government affected, prompting a trial on the issues.

Then the city would have to prove that the annexation is "reasonable," based on its need for expansion, past performance of the city, and a number of other fac-

tors included in the annexation study.

Incorporated in 1882, Bay St. Louis rarely has added to its boundaries. Its most recent annexation was in 1992, when the city took in the Cedar Point territory that now includes Casino Magic.

When the casino was developed, city officials slashed the municipal property tax rate to five mills. Fees and taxes on the casino, meanwhile, have pumped almost \$20 million in the city's coffers and \$2.6 million into the local school system.

And this fiscal year, revenues from the casino have grown steadily, from \$168,000 in October to over \$225,000 in March, city documents show.

Favre, council discuss possible 'landlord responsibility' plan

BY MARY G. SEILEY
Staff Writer

City leaders are looking at a new possibility for curbing rowdy behavior in Bay St. Louis neighborhoods — clamping down on landlords.

Mayor Eddie Favre said Monday the administration is studying a proposal under development in Charleston, S.C., to make landlords accountable for repeated complaints about disorderly conduct.

Once city police list a property as a "disorderly premises," the landlord would be ordered to correct the situation. An additional violation within a year would lead to an order that the landlord submit a report with a plan for dealing with the problem.

Another violation would lead to a requirement that the landlord show cause why rental permits should not be revoked or suspended.

The system would be administered under a new "rental property hearing board," overseeing complaints when police are called to the same property repeatedly.

Favre said while Charleston's problems are primarily with unruly college students dwelling in downtown neighborhoods, such a system could also deal with what's been plaguing residents in part of Ward 3's neighborhood: illegal drug traffic, shootings and unbearable rowdy

behavior in apartments and duplexes.

City Council has heard repeated complaints over the Ward 3 problem along stretches of Bookter, Sycamore, Washington, Keller, Watts, Labat and St. Frances streets. Residents complain that while police have made a strong effort to crack down on the problems, they persist.

Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley Jr. was quoted recently as saying the effort in his city is about "responsibility" on the part of the landlord, "and a good night's rest" for residents who have been bothered repeatedly by partying tenants. A committee there is drafting a rental property peace ordinance.

"We're going to try and see if we can do something similar here," Favre said.

In an unrelated matter, at-large council member William "Bill" Taylor asked city officials to study a possible shift of some powers to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Taylor said he'd like to see the commission have full power to approve or disapprove minor variances, rather than force applicants to appear before City Council for final action on the commission's recommendations. Taylor said it's unreasonable to require the current two-step process on a variance such as an 18-inch waiver from lot line requirements.

City Council could retain the final say in appeals of

such commission decisions, Taylor suggested.

Favre said there are certain matters that should be "automatic," requiring only commission scrutiny, such as subdivision requirements that are spelled out in detail in the city code. Another Taylor said he made the suggestion to "take some of the burden off the people" who are pursuing minor zoning code variations.

City Attorney John Scafide said he would draw up a list of matters that the commission potentially could handle on its own, without referral to City Council.

Meanwhile, council adopted a new policy on staff "take home" of city vehicles. Employees living more than 15 miles from their workstations won't be allowed assignment of a vehicle in the future. Those outside the 15-mile area who currently have a city car assigned will be grandfathered in and won't have to surrender the vehicle.

The new rules also forbid personal use of the car, including stops on the way to or from work. The only people who can ride in a take-home vehicle are employees of Bay St. Louis, or those persons approved by the mayor or his designee.

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St. Paul Carnival Assn. has meeting slated April 22

Saint Paul Carnival Association will have a general membership meeting Monday, April 22 at 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria. All current members are invited.

Obituaries

JOHN CARTER, JR.
DOROTHY DARTEZ
WM. EDDRINGTON
MILFORD FAVRE
WILLIAM FIELD, JR.
CAREY PHILLIPS
THERESA SMITH
SHIRLEY WILLIAMS
LOIS YARBOROUGH

JOHN CARTER, JR.
 John Glenn Carter, Jr., 50, of Diamondhead, died Saturday, April 13, 2002, in Diamondhead.

Mr. Carter was a native of New Orleans and a resident of Diamondhead for the past nine years. He was a Catholic and a graduate of St. Clair High School, St. Clair, Mich., and of Western Michigan University with a BA degree in economics and mathematics. He was previously employed with Whitney Bank as cashier supervisor, asset management coordinator with Merrill Lynch for 17 years, financial analyst with Entergy Corp. in New Orleans and was staff accountant with the Copa Casino of Gulfport. He was an active member with the Junior Achievement program.

He was preceded in death by his father, John Glenn Carter, Sr.

Survivors include his wife, Ann Carter of Diamondhead; sons John Glenn Carter, III and Jason Carter, both of Diamondhead; his mother, Constance Thompson Carter of Diamondhead; and brothers Fred Shaw of Marysville, Mich., Mims H. Carter of Pass Christian and Patrick Carter of Orangevale, Calif.

A memorial service was conducted Monday at St. Paul Catholic Church in Pass Christian. Interment was private.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis was in charge of arrangements.

The family prefers donations to the American Lung Association of Mississippi, P. O. Box 2178, Ridgeland, MS 39158-2178.

DOROTHY DARTEZ
 Dorothy Ellis Dartez, 78, of Diamondhead, died Saturday, April 13, 2002, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Dartez was a native of Big Springs, Texas and a longtime resident of New Orleans before moving to Diamondhead. She was a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Bay St. Louis and a member of the Bay-Waveland Yacht Club, American Legion Post 77 Ladies Auxiliary in Waveland.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Nelson Joseph Dartez; her parents, James and Lillian Chaers Ellis; and a brother, Paul Ellis.

Survivors include sons James R. Dartez of New Orleans and John Ellis Dartez of Aylett, Va.; a daughter, Jyl Ann Hedrick of Bay St. Louis; a brother, David Ellis of Austin, Texas and six grandchildren.

Visitation was Wednesday at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis followed by a prayer service and interment in Garden of Memory Cemetery in Bay St. Louis.

WM. EDDRINGTON
 William Maurice Eddrington, 88, of Pass Christian, died Wednesday, April 10, 2002, in Pass Christian.

Mr. Eddrington was a member of the Long Beach Church of Christ. He was a retired farmer and heavy equipment operator.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Daphne Eddrington; his parents, W. C. and Ella Ellington; and a brother, Don Eddrington.

Survivors include a son, Max Eddrington of Long Beach; a sister, Mildred Westbrook of Paragould, Ark.; and three grandsons.

Visitation was Sunday evening at Mitchell Funeral Home Chapel in Paragould. Services were conducted Monday in the funeral home chapel.

The family prefers memorials to the Panama Medical Mission, Long Beach Church of Christ, 200 N. Cleveland Ave., Long Beach, Ms 39560.

MILFORD FAVRE
 Milford Joseph Favre, 68, of Long Beach, died Tuesday, April 16, 2002, in Gulfport.

Mr. Favre was a native of Hancock County and the Pineville Community. He was of the Mormon faith and a member of the Church of Latter Day Saints of Gulfport. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Survivors include his wife, Virgie Favre; three sons, John Adrian, Steven Joseph and Billy Favre, all of Long Beach; daughter Pam Favre of Pensacola; brothers Francis Tubbs Favre of Pass Christian and Hugo Favre Sr. of Bay St. Louis; sisters Edith Davis of Bay St. Louis and Murdy Shiyou of Lakeshore; and two grandchildren.

A visitation will be held today from 7 p.m. until at the Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis. The prayer service will be held Friday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Interment will follow.

WILLIAM FIELD, JR.
 William Michael Field, Jr., 66, of Kiln, died Saturday, April 13, 2002, in Kiln.

Mr. Field was a native of New Orleans, a resident of Hancock County for the past 27 years and was a member of Annunciation Catholic Church in Kiln. He was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps Reserve and was a past member of the Firemen Association. He retired from the United States Postal Service as a clerk at the main branch in Gulfport and also retired from the City of Waveland.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William M. and Felicie Field, Sr.; and a brother, Theodore "Teddy" Field, Sr.

Survivors include his wife, Sheridan L. Field of Kiln; a son, William M. Field, III of Kiln; four daughters, Michelle Varnell of Waveland; Christine Field of Kiln, Alicia Clendenon of Pearlinton and Felicia M. Field of Kiln; a brother, James Field of

Kenner; sisters Felicie Borne of Metairie and Augusta Flanagan of Slidell; and three grandchildren.

Visitation was Wednesday at St. Clare Catholic Church in Waveland followed by celebration of a Mass of Christian Burial Interment will be private.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

The family prefers donations to the Hancock County Library Foundation, Kiln Branch, 312 Hwy. 90, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520.

CAREY PHILLIPS
 Carey James Phillips, 52, of LaPlace, La., died Friday, April 12, 2002, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Phillips was a native of Bay St. Louis and a resident of LaPlace for the past 10 years. He was a Catholic and a graduate of St. Stanislaus and the University of Southern Mississippi and earned his law degree at Ole Miss. He was an independent mineral lease abstractor.

He was preceded in death by his father, Walter James Phillips, and a sister, Carolyn Phillips Stechmann.

Survivors include his mother, Inger Viero Phillips of Bay St. Louis; four brothers, Lars O. Phillips of San Jose, Calif., Terry A. Phillips of Kenner, Cort C. Phillips of Waveland, and Dr. Michael S. Phillips of Greenville, S.C.; and a sister, Lisbet A. Phillips of Atlanta, Ga.

A prayer service will be conducted today, April 18 at 10 a.m. at the Gulf Coast Memorial Cemetery and Mausoleum in Bay St. Louis followed by interment.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

THERESA SMITH
 Theresa Seeger Smith, 86, of Pass Christian, died Tuesday, April 16, 2002, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Smith was a native of New Orleans and a longtime resident of Harahan before moving to Pass Christian six years ago. She was a Catholic.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Alfred B. Smith; parents Charles and Theresa Elgie Seeger; three brothers, Everett, Leonard and Ashton Seeger; and a sister, Mildred Kramer.

Survivors include a son, Alfred J. Smith and wife Beverly of Bay St. Louis; daughter Joycelyn Olen Conaway of River Ridge, La.; sisters Myrtle Galatis of Slidell, Lois Fendt of Birmingham, Ala. and Thelma Wagoner of Harahan; nine grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

A graveside service will be conducted Friday, April 19 at 1 p.m. at Garden of Memories Cemetery in Metairie followed by interment.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

SHIRLEY WILLIAMS
 Shirley May Williams, 75, of Lakeshore, died Saturday, April 13, 2002, in Bay St. Louis.

Mrs. Williams was a

native of Montz, La. and a resident of Lakeshore. She was a member of St. Ann Catholic Church and Altar Society, LaFemmes, the American Legion Post 139 Auxiliary and 40+8, Bay St. Louis, SCOWI Carnival Organization, Clermont Harbor Hand Crafts Club, DAV Auxiliary #50, Shamrock Community Service and the Hancock County Senior Citizens. She was chairman of VA Hospital, Gulfport.

She was preceded in death by a son, Jeffery A. Williams, and parents Israel A. and Georgina Duke Tuiz.

Survivors include her husband, Elie J. "Buddy" Williams of Lakeshore; daughters Jackie St. Romain of Avondale, La., Judy Video of Violet, La. and Mrs. Joel St. Romain of Independence, La.; a sister, Marion Marie Traub of Lakeshore; 13 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Visitation was Monday evening at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Tuesday at St. John Catholic Church in Lakeshore followed by burial in Lakeshore Cemetery.

LOIS YARBOROUGH
 Lois Marie Necaise Yarborough, 71, of Waveland, died Saturday, April 13, 2002, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Yarborough was a native of Kiln and a longtime resident of Waveland. She was a member of St. Clare Catholic Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Walter Francis Yarborough; her parents, Monroe Hervis and Conelia Josephine Necaise, Sr.; a son, Jefferson H. Yarborough; a daughter, Mary Frances Johnston; brothers Herman, Curman and Cecil Necaise; and sisters Eula

Necaise, Eula Mae Necaise, Eloise Hoda and Margie Dubuisson; and a great-grandson, Joseph Winningham.

Survivors include sons Sgt. 1st Class Walter C. Yarborough of D'Iberville and David J. Yarborough of Waveland; four daughters, Connie E. LaFontaine and Paulette L. Shiyou, both of Lakeshore; Brenda K. Schaffer of Morehead, Ky., and Ellen J. Johnston of Clarksdale, Miss.; brothers John I. Necaise of the Dedeaux community and Monroe J. Necaise and Jason J. Necaise, both of Kiln; sisters Janet Peterson of Dedeaux, Linda Faye Bourgeois of Waveland and Patsy Spurlock of Bay St. Louis; 22 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

Visitation was Tuesday evening at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Wednesday at St. Clare Catholic Church in Waveland followed by interment in Waveland Cemetery.

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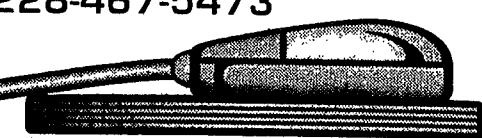
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CHAPTER 233
 TOPS, MS 233 met Tuesday, April 9 at the Waveland Methodist Church on Vacation Lane and Central Avenue.
 Best loser for the week was Pat with 7 1/4 lbs.

There were 11 members present, and chapter members welcomed two new members, Judith and Ruth. TOPS 233 meets every Tuesday at the Waveland Methodist Church. Weigh-ins are 5-5:45 p.m. with the

meeting following.
 Interested persons call Wenda at 467-1695.

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BUSINESS NEWS

Teenagers to take over Winn Dixie

Saturday, April 20, Winn-Dixie Stores, Inc. (NYSE: WIN) will salute its most dedicated and ambitious young associates with its annual Youth Management Day.

Through the 13-year-old program, more than 10,000 associates between the ages of 14 and 20 will assume management positions for one day - in more than 1,100 Winn-Dixie stores across 14 states.

Designed to recognize and encourage Winn-Dixie young associates who demonstrate leadership potential, dependability, enthusiasm and first-class service, Youth Management

Day provides on-the-job training to teach essential business skills for management positions.

Seven to 12 junior associates are selected in each retail store to serve as store managers or department heads, undertaking responsibility for merchandise coordination, associate supervision, price accuracy assurance and answering customer inquiries.

Youth managers for the Bay St. Louis Winn-Dixie will include Eddie Renz, store manager; Nick Busbea, co-manager; Chris Gilmore, assistant manager; Michael Gros, market manager; Tim Bragg, pro-

duce manager; Amy Blackstock, deli manager; Tara Atwell, customer service manager; Mark Acker, general merchandise manager; Misty Bennett, head cashier; and Thuy Dang, scanning manager.

Hours of the event will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To maximize the learning experience, Winn-Dixie's resident managers observe closely to assist as necessary.

"Young people are a highly valued part of Winn-Dixie's workforce, and Youth Management Day both commands and builds upon their contributions," said August Toscano, senior vice

president, human resources.

"From produce clerks to cashiers, many of our young associates show great promise. With Youth Management Day, we recognize exceptional performance while providing a valuable learning experience."

As testament to the program's success, many current managers attribute their participation in Youth Management Day as motivation for career advancement within the organization.

Winn-Dixie Stores Inc. is one of the nation's largest supermarket retailers with more than 1,140 stores in 14 states and the Bahamas.

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Northrop Grumman sales up 106 percent

Northrop Grumman Corporation (NYSE: NOC) has reported first quarter 2002 net income of \$149 million, or \$1.27 per share, compared with net income of \$132 million, or \$1.81 per share, for the same period of 2001, adjusted for SFAS No. 142 - Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets. The comparable per share decline reflects a substantial decrease in pension income and increases in interest expense and in the number of shares outstanding. On an economic earnings basis, the company reported increased earnings of \$170 million, or \$1.45 per share, compared with \$101 million, or \$1.39 per share, for the same period of 2001. First quarter 2002 earnings per share are based on average diluted shares outstanding of 112.8 million versus 72.8 million for the first quarter of 2001.

Sales for the first quarter more than doubled to \$4.1 billion from \$2.0 billion reported for the first quarter of 2001. Northrop Grumman's operating margin for the quarter increased 39 percent to \$313 million from an adjusted \$225 million in the same period a year ago.

PERS schedules retiree seminar

Special to the
Sea Coast Echo

Gulfport will be the site for one of nine spring retiree seminars hosted by the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS) Thursday, May 9, in Building U, Room 202, at the Jeff Davis campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, 2226 Switzer Road.

Information about 2002 retirement legislation and retiree insurance programs will be provided. PERS officials will be available to answer questions on all issues relating to retirement.

All PERS benefit recipients, their family members and others interested in retirement issues are invited to attend. There is no charge for the seminar and pre-registration is not required.

The seminar begins at 9:30 a.m.



FINANCIAL FOCUS

*Submitted by Craig Foster
Edward Jones Co.*

Investment guidelines for all seasons

It's finally spring - at least according to the calendar. As we move into a new season, you may adjust your lifestyle, your schedule and even your wardrobe. But no matter what the time of year, some things shouldn't change - such as your investment guidelines.

Of course, everyone's financial situation is different. Your needs, goals, tolerance for risk and time horizon are all different from those of your neighbors and co-workers.

And yet, when it comes to intelligent investing, some "universals" - common-sense rules that can work for everyone - apply.

Here are a few of these guidelines:

• **Rebalance your portfolio.** Every year or so, it's a good idea to review the mix of stocks, bonds and cash instruments in your portfolio. Over time, your financial situation will change, so you may need to adjust your portfolio accordingly.

For example, as you near retirement, you may want to move some investment dollars from "growth" instruments to income-producing assets.

And sometimes, your portfolio can evolve without your realizing it. Suppose you decided that you wanted a certain percentage of your portfolio in growth stocks.

If the value of these stocks increases to the point where it exceeds the desired percentage, you may be taking on more risk than you're comfortable with. If that happens, it's clearly time to rebalance.

• **Lower your risk.** Examine your portfolio for low-quality fixed-income investments or ultra-risky stocks. If you find them, give some thought to making some adjustments.

In any market climate, you can purchase high-quality investments with reasonable levels of risk. Your investment professional can help you find these vehicles and then discuss the consequences of making adjustments.

• **Review your cash balance.** It's always a good idea to have from six months' to one year's worth of living expenses available in a highly liquid vehicle, such as a money market account.

But beyond that, if you have too much "cash" in your portfolio, you may be depriving yourself of opportunities for long-term growth or current income. Once you're sure you have cash set aside for emergencies, put the rest to work for you.

• **Never stop investing.** When is the best time to invest? Today. No matter what's happening in the market at any given point, you will always have goals you want to meet - college for your kids, a comfortable retirement, etc.

If you are going to meet these goals, you must invest consistently. And the sooner you start investing, the more time you will have for your money to potentially grow.

• **Diversify.** At any given time, you'll find different classes of investments moving in different directions. Stocks may be up, while bonds are down. Or growth stocks may be up, while international stocks are down. Or municipal bonds may be up, while government-sponsored, mortgage-backed securities are down.

If you follow these few basic guidelines, you'll help position yourself for investment success - winter, spring, summer and fall.

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SPORTS

Barrett bows out with Tigers' 6-2 win over PRC

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

Adam Barrett, a senior 3B/OF, ended his Bay High Tiger playing career on Monday as the Tigers defeated the Pearl River Central Blue Devils 6-2.

Barrett, the lone senior on the Tiger squad, was honored prior to the game for his dedication to the Tiger program. Barrett recalled, "It was very nice to end the season with a win. However, I will miss playing at Bay High. Growing up in Bay St. Louis, we are all very close. I will miss the people in the community and on my teams the most next year. But, this team will be strong next season. They have about eight starters returning and will have a great shot at the playoffs."

Barrett finished his four-year career by leading the team at the plate on Senior Night with two hits and one RBI. Barrett earned nine varsity letters during his playing days at the Bay St. Louis school. In addition to his prowess on the athletic field, Barrett will be honored by the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame for his accomplishments in the classroom on Wednesday, April 17, at a banquet dinner in Biloxi.

Barrett has earned a full academic scholarship to Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge where he has also been asked to join the Tiger football team.

Bay High spotted two runs to the Blue Devils in the top of the first inning; however, that was all the spotting that Bay High would give.

The Tigers tied the game 2-2 in their first at-bat. B.J. Corr hit a two-out double to get on base. Skip Ladner reached base on an error and scored on a past ball to make the score 2-2. Barrett tallied his first hit of the

game but was left stranded on the basepaths.

Guy Alleman put the Tigers up for good in the bottom of the second inning with a two-out single that drove in two runs to make the score 4-2.

Barrett stroked an RBI double in the third inning to give Bay High a 5-3 lead. Robbie Pitre knocked Barrett in with a sacrifice fly to make the final score 6-2.

Brandon Strong was dominant once again on the mound going six complete innings for the win.

The Tigers ended the 2002 season with a 13-12 record. Bay High head coach Alan Lumpkin stated, "It was very important for us to end this season on a winning note. We were all very disappointed about not making the playoffs because we had put ourselves in a good position. However, our hitting just did not back up our pitching. We concentrated on the pitching coming into the season and it was solid. But, the hitting just wasn't there to back it up. We have several players returning next season, so the future looks bright. I am very proud of the way that this team played all season long."

Lumpkin continued, "We lose one senior, Adam Barrett. He will be greatly missed. Adam does all the little things that it takes to be successful. He has very solid leadership and leads by his example. He is a very classy person and we hate to lose him. But, we wish him the best in the future."

In other area action, SSC defeated Vancleave 6-4 on Thursday, April 11. Stephen Kulikowski hit a two-run homer to key the win. Justin Lowery picked up the win for the Rocks allowing eight hits and striking out six.

The Bulldogs bounced

back on Friday, April 12 to defeat the Pass Christian Pirates 4-3.

On Saturday, April 13, the Pirates split a double-header with the Ocean Springs Greyhounds. Pass Christian won the first game 7-2 on a Darren Henderson grand slam. John Cuevas also had three RBIs. The Pirates lost the nightcap 5-1. Pass Christian finished the season with a record of 10-17.

The D'Iberville Warriors defeated the Rocks 5-1 as SSC finished the 2002 season.

In girls softball, the Our Lady Academy Crescents opened state playoff action by splitting a pair of games with Enterprise. OLA won the first game 4-1. Lakasia Duckworth and Hannah Allen each had two hits in the game. The second game was won by Enterprise 4-3. The two teams played the rubber game in the best-of-three series on Monday, April 15. Scoring details were not available at press time. The East Central Lady Hornets swept the Pass Christian Lady Pirates 8-0 and 9-1 in a two-game playoff series.

The Hancock Lady Hawks tallied two wins to finish season as the division runners-up in girls softball on Saturday, April 13. HHS defeated Hattiesburg 19-0 and Oak Grove 3-2.

Kate Sullivan got the win on the mound against Hattiesburg striking out six batters in the process. Morgan Necaise added three hits to her five stolen bases in the game for Hancock. Summer Seymour stole three bases after hitting a single and two doubles.

Mandy Graham got the win against Oak Grove. Courtney Vincent tallied two hits while Jessica Dubuisson added a double and a stolen base.

'All-Star' cheerleaders



The Bay-Waveland Middle School cheerleaders, under the leadership of Celeste Richardson, Heidi Egloff, Monet Bourgeois and Brittany Alleman, attended the 2001 UCA camp at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. The squad received all superiors in the categories of cheer, chant, and dance. They also received spirit sticks for their display of enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and dedication throughout the camp. Celeste Richardson, Heidi Egloff, Monet Bourgeois, and Calren Moore were selected as All-Star Cheerleaders and were invited to display their talent in Houston, Texas, with other All-Star Cheerleaders selected throughout the United States. The squad also traveled to Hattiesburg in November and competed in regional competition where they again acquired all superiors and received a bid to compete in the national competition in New Orleans. Coach for the Bay-Waveland School cheerleaders is Suzy Gilmore. Pictured are, bottom row from left, Melissa Akers, Brittany Alleman (co-captain) and Alexa Smith; middle row, Monet Bourgeois (co-captain) and Sarah Ladner; back row, Heidi Egloff (captain), LeAnn Graves, Celeste Richardson (captain) and Chrissy Labbe. Not pictured is Calren Moore.

Tigers down Hawks 5-0 in tennis

The Bay High School Tigers blanked the Hancock Hawks 5-0 in area tennis play Tuesday. In the boys single match, Gabe Noyes beat Chris White 5-7, 6-1, 6-3; in girls singles, Stephanie Reed won over Molly Nunez 6-0, 6-3, in boys doubles, Daniel Stanton and Johnny Hozey defeated Will Smith and Donald Hains 6-0, 6-1; in girls doubles, Katy Benvenuti and Kelly Calahan prevailed over Andrea White and Melissa

Jassby 6-4, 6-2; and in Strawschenko won by mixed doubles. Marquez Singleton and Elena on the season.

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Wildcats sweep ECCC, lose to Meridan in tennis

Pearl River Community College's women's and men's tennis teams took an all-day road trip Saturday, taking on East Central in Decatur in the morning and Meridan in Meridan in the afternoon.

Pearl River swept ECCC with both teams winning 7-2, while Meridan defeated the Lady Wildcats 5-4 and shut out the men 9-0. PRC's women improved to 8-5 with the split, while the men dropped to 6-7.

In women's singles against East Central, Leigh McCombs (PRCC) defeated Tori Tijerina (ECCC) 6-4, 1-6 (9); Brandy Bounds (ECCC) defeated Tannia McAtee (PRCC) 4-6, 7-5 (8); Leslie Miller (PRCC) defeated Katie Bourland (ECCC) 6-0, 6-1; Tonya Newton (PRCC) defeated Cassue Shrock (ECCC) 6-4, 6-2; Ashley Ponder (PRCC) defeated Nikki Tullios (ECCC) 6-4, 6-4; and Amy Altom (PRCC) won by default.

In women's doubles against East Central, Tijerina-Bounds (ECCC) defeated McCombs-Altom (PRCC) 8-3, Miller-Newton (PRCC) defeated Bourland-Shrock (ECCC) 8-2, Ponder-Altom (PRCC) won by default.

In men's singles against East Central, Blake Revette

(ECCC) defeated Josh Eaton (PRCC) 7-5, 6-1; Ken Miller (PRCC) defeated Ty Anderson (ECCC) 6-1, 6-1; Matt Hughes (PRCC) defeated Chad Austin (ECCC) 6-1, 5-7 (5); Jonathan Barlow (PRCC) defeated Mario Qualls (ECCC) 6-1, 6-0; Patrick Cannon (PRCC) won by default; Joel Hebert (PRCC) won by default.

In men's doubles against East Central, Revette-Anderson (ECCC) defeated Barlow-Eaton (PRCC) 8-6, Miller-Hughes (PRCC) defeated Austin-Qualls (ECCC) 8-1, Cannon-Hebert (PRCC) won by default.

In women's singles against Meridan, Charlotte Heidelberg (MCC) defeated Leigh McCombs (PRCC) 6-1, 4-6 (6); Megan Chivas (MCC) defeated Tannia McAtee (PRCC) 6-3, 7-6 (3); Leslie Miller (PRCC) defeated Anna Bailey (MCC) 6-1, 3-6 (5); Casie Joyner (MCC) defeated Tonya Newton (PRCC) 6-4, 6-4; Jill Hathorn (MCC) defeated Amy Altom (PRCC) 6-0, 6-2; Ashley Ponder (PRCC) won by default.

In women's doubles against Meridan, Heidelberg-Chivas (MCC) defeated McCombs-McAtee (PRCC) 8-3, Miller-Newton (PRCC) defeated Joyner-Hathorn (MCC) 8-6,

Ponder-Altom (PRCC) won by default.

In men's singles against Meridan, Will Wiggins (MCC) defeated Joel Hebert (PRCC) 6-0, 6-1; Matt McElhaney (MCC) defeated Ken Miller (PRCC) 6-2, 6-2; Bobby Barton (MCC) defeated Matt Hughes (PRCC) 6-3, 6-3; Brad Dearman (MCC) defeated Jonathan Barlow (PRCC) 7-5, 6-2; Kevin McDonald (MCC) defeated Patrick Cannon (PRCC) 6-0, 6-0; Dustin Davidson (MCC) defeated Joel Hebert (PRCC) 6-2, 6-0.

In men's doubles against Meridan, Wiggins-McElhaney (MCC) defeated Hebert-Cannon (PRCC) 8-1, Burton-Dearman (MCC) defeated Miller-Hughes (PRCC) 8-3, Davidson-McDonald (MCC) defeated Barlow-Eaton (PRCC) 8-4.

The 2002 MACJC-Region XXIII Women's Tournament is set for Thursday through Sunday in Meridan, while the men's state and regionals are set for April 25-28 in Hattiesburg.

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SPORTS

SSC honors basketball & soccer athletes

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

St. Stanislaus honored their winter sports athletes with an awards ceremony on Sunday in the school's Resource Center. The sports honored were basketball and soccer. Participation certificates were given to those athletes who participated on the team during the entire season of play. Academic Excellence awards were presented to those athletes at all levels of play who maintained a 3.0 GPA during their sport's season of play.

Junior high certificates of participation in soccer were presented to Raphael Andres, Jackson Benvenuti, Eduardo Gallardo, Brennan Marlowe, Matthew Milner, Justin Noah, Carlyn Perez, Cody Seal, and Ricardo Villareal.

Those athletes receiving participation certificates and academic excellence awards were Brit Breland, Joel Gregory, John Hadden, Jimmy Headley, Matthew Kivlan, Brad Lingsch, Michael Morrell, and Jorge Peart. The junior high Coach's Award was presented to Matthew Milner and

Brennan Marlowe. Brit Breland merited the Hustle Award. The Most Improved Award was given to Michael Morrell. Brad Lingsch won the Outstanding Defensive Player Award and Ricardo Villareal won the Outstanding Offensive Player Award.

Varsity letters were presented to Brooks Breland, Bryce Breland, Brennan Brooks, Devin Caboni-Quinn, Todd Farrar, Jeffrey Hansell, Michael Kivlan, Michael Leonard, Jeremy Lewis, Jimmy Strickland, Trey Treutel, and Scott Wilson. Those receiving varsity letters and academic excellence awards were Brad Blanchard, Jeremy Boelte, Will Boxx, Beau Brodtmann, Kody Cannon, Drew Cranford, Eric Cranford, Patrick Donohoe, Peter Doty, Heath Hansell, Tommy Henry, Jake Johnson, Jeremy Keller, Stephen Kulikowski, Austin Ladner, Kyle Lewis, Josh Lingsch, Sean Olsen, Corey Vollenweider, Brian Webb, and Jeffrey Yeager.

On the junior varsity squad, Corey Vollenweider and Tommy Henry earned the Coach's Award. Beau Brodtmann was presented the junior varsity Hustle

Award. Patrick Donohoe merited the Most Improved Player Award.

Austin Ladner and Heath Hansell were presented the Outstanding Defensive Player Awards while Jake Johnson and Michael Kivlan earned the Most Outstanding Offensive Player Awards.

Senior awards for the varsity were presented to Bryce Breland, Brennan Brooks, Drew Cranford, Jeffrey Hansell, Stephen Kulikowski, Michael Leonard, and Jimmy Strickland.

Drew Cranford and Michael Leonard brought home the varsity Coach's Award. Sean Olsen merited the varsity's 12th Man Award. Jimmy Strickland, Bryce Breland, and Jeremy Boelte all won the Outstanding Defensive Player Awards.

The Outstanding Offensive Player Awards went to Jeffrey Hansell, Kyle Lewis, and Peter Doty. The Mr. Rock-a-chaw Awards were presented to Stephen Kulikowski and Brennan Brooks.

The seventh grade basketball participation certificates were presented to Matt Hudgens and Eric

Lichtenstein. Those receiving participation and academic excellence awards were Braulio Cardenas, Dayne Coscia, Kythe Hall, Ryan Heath, Chase Kleinpeter, Chaz Singleton, Taylor Spinosa, Grant West, Andrew Taylor, Bryce Morreale, and David Grapusa.

The seventh grade's Offensive Player Award was given to Chaz Singleton. The Defensive Player Award went to Grant West and Eric Lichtenstein. The Coach's Award was given to Chaz Singleton. Ryan Heath was tallied as the Most Valuable Player.

The eighth grade Rocks receiving participation certificates were Sean Anderson, Brandon Butler, Ben Davis, Andrew Hillenbrand, Tony Kippes, Jason Lewis, Evan Magers, Owen McNally, Blake Williams, and Jason Zedak. Those receiving academic excellence awards and participation certificates were Austin Gaffney, Cole Larsen, Brad Reinhart, Sylvester Twiggs, and Brian Whitman.

The eighth grade Best Offensive Player was Sean Anderson. The Best Defensive Player Award was

won by Owen McNally. The Rebounding Award was presented to Sylvester Twiggs. Austin Gaffney won the Best All-Around Player Award. The Captain's Awards were given to Brandon Butler and Jason Lewis.

The freshman players receiving participation certificates were Michael Deifik, Steve Duke, Jay Pitre, Ramsey Shawa, and Derrick Willis. Michael Cure, Floyd Dedeaux, and Sam Hudgens earned academic excellence awards in addition to the participation certificates. Derrick Willis won the Most Improved Award. Sam Hudgens was presented with the Defensive Award while Michael Cure and Ramsey Shawa earned the Most Valuable Player Awards.

Certificates of participation on the junior varsity and varsity levels were presented to Joey Cerone, Zach Delaney, Craig Kleinpeter, Philman Ladner, Jay Spell, and Andrew Walsh. Walsh also received an academic excellence award.

Varsity letters were presented to Brent Acker, Darius Acker, Brett Amond, Sean Benoit, Ben Benvenuti, Brian Butler,

Mario Faranda, Eric Loprete, Zach Mellen, Rob Murray, Chris Patterson, Cheick Sanankoua, Robert Ray Smith, Sam Tart, James Tingstrom, Joshua Washington, Gabe Willis, and Grady Wyle. Acker, Butler, Patterson, Sanankoua, and Washington all received academic excellence letters.

The junior varsity Coach's Award was merited by Zach Mellen. At the request of the varsity basketball team, the only special awards presented were those traditionally reserved for the seniors. The team wished to be recognized for what they accomplished as a team rather than being singled out as individuals.

The Captain's Awards were given to Cheick Sanankoua, Brent Acker, and Brian Butler. Sean Benoit merited the Curtis St. Mary Award. The Coach's Award was given to Cheick Sanankoua. The Mr. Rock-a-chaw Award was won by Brent Acker and Brian Butler.

SSC/OLA tennis playing strong heading into tourney

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

The St. Stanislaus/Our Lady Academy tennis team ended the 2002 regular season with a win as they head into the Division 8 Class 4A tournament that will be held at D'Iberville on Thursday, April 18.

On Wednesday, April 10, the Rocks lost to Class 5A perennial power Gulfport 4-1. The lone win for the SSC/OLA team came in boys singles as Ernesto Zarate defeated Ryland Bertucci 6-0, 7-6.

In girls singles Madeline Randall defeated Sarah Loicano 6-0, 6-2. The OLA girls doubles team of Christine Bratton/Rachel Cranford were beaten by the sister tandem of Allison and Laura Zakaras 6-3, 6-3.

The boys doubles team of

Billy Flowers/Curry Gamble were defeated by Anthony Vlahos/William Van Kirk 6-0, 6-2.

The mixed doubles team of Kunal Patel/Maggie Rafferty lost to Sean McRary/Jordan Ladner 6-3, 6-2.

On Tuesday, April 16 the SSC/OLA tennis team played just their second district match against the D'Iberville Warriors. The Rocks won the match 3-2.

Ernesto Zarate kept up his solid play of SSC/OLA with a 6-1, 6-2 win over Carlos Abondano. Sarah Loicano lost to Stacey McClellon 6-0, 6-0.

The boys doubles team of Billy Flowers/Curry Gamble defeated Justin Ladner/Casey Price 6-0, 6-1.

The girls doubles team of Christine Bratton/Rachel

Cranford defeated Melissa Fayard/Jennifer Nelon 6-1, 6-0. And, the mixed doubles team of Kunal Patel/Maggie Rafferty lost to Michael Santa Cruz/Laura Farries 7-5, 6-3.

SSC/OLA head tennis coach Myron Labat commented, "Heading into district, we feel confident that we will perform well in boys singles and boys and girls doubles. Since this is definitely a rebuilding year, we will play our hardest and hope for the best in our district competition and for the events that we qualify for state. The good side of a rebuilding year is that there will be several players returning next season."

Labat continued to explain that due to a patchy schedule because of state testing, third quarter exams, and several rain-outs, the SSC/OLA tennis team had only played two district matches. This hindered the team when the seedings were paired. In boys singles the team was

seeded #1, but in boys doubles the team was seeded second instead of first. The #1 seed, East Central, had played eight matches which gave them a higher seed.

Perhaps due to the same reasons, the girls doubles team was also seeded second. The mixed doubles team and girls singles will enter the division tournament unseeded.

SSC & Pass warm up for district golf

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

The St. Stanislaus and Pass Christian golf teams are warming up for the Division 8 Class 4A tournament that will be held at the end of this week in Gautier on the Mississippi National Course.

On April 10, the Rocks recorded their lowest team score all season with a 163. The Rocks finished second to St. John who scored a 157 at the Dogwood Hills course.

Ernest Martin from St. John was the low medalist with a 37. T.J. Koger was low scorer for SSC with a 40 on the 9-hole tournament.

Pass Christian's Nick Beale and Koger each shot a par-36 during a three-team match on Monday, April 15 at The Oaks course in Pass Christian.

Pass Christian shot a 162 to take the team title while SSC shot a team 168 to finish third. Picayune placed second with a team score of 164.

Moran places third in state in powerlifting

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO
The Hancock Hawks powerlifting team had two members participate in the state powerlifting meet held on Friday, April 12, in Jackson.

Donny Moran, a senior, placed third in the state in Class 5A while Matt Crittenden, a sophomore, took fourth place.

Moran lifted in the 275-

pound weight class and lifted a combined total of 1,375 pounds.

He bench pressed 275 pounds, squatted 500, and deadlifted 600 pounds.

Crittenden participated in the Super Heavyweight class and lifted a total of 1,325 pounds. He bench pressed 250 pounds, squatted 575, and deadlifted 500 pounds.

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PSC approves smaller sewer, water increase

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

The state Public Service Commission has approved a smaller than requested rate increase for a utility firm serving some areas of Hancock and Harrison counties.

Total Environmental Services, Inc., which provides sewerage collection and treatment and some water to small residential areas of the county requested rate increases to help pay for improvements to systems mandated by the PSC and the state Department of Environmental Quality.

TESI serves the Jourdan River subdivision in Kiln, the White Cypress Community in northern Hancock County, Clermont Harbor and the Oak Harbor subdivisions outside of Pearlinton in Hancock County and portions of Discovery Bay and Pass Christian Isles in western Harrison County.

The 120-day statutory deadline for making a deci-

sion officially expired March 27, but Michael Callahan, Chairman of the PSC and Chairman of the Southern District, said, "The commission was not yet through deliberating, and we took our time so we could make a fair judgment." He said the decision was "difficult" to make.

The Hancock County Board of Supervisors officially went on record opposing any rate increase for TESI until all the mandated improvements to systems were completed. Because of faults in the systems, there is a building moratorium in Jourdan River Shores, and no new water customers can be added in Clermont Harbor, Discover Bay and Pass Christian Isles.

Callahan said most of the problems with deciding the case came from two things TESI was trying to get the commission to approve.

"First, TESI asked that all the systems be consolidated, so that everyone from the Gulf Coast to north Mississippi was under the

same rate schedule. Secondly, TESI was asking to be compensated for work the company was planning on doing in 2002, but has yet to be completed."

Callahan said, "The Public Utilities staff did a wonderful job going over TESI's expenses and really held their nose to the grindstone, so I was comfortable with those numbers. I was also comfortable with our verification of work that TESI claimed to have done and the expenditures associated with that work."

He said, at first, he was opposed to the flat-rate system because he thought it would be unfair to some consumers.

"But, during the hearing, evidence showed that because of the 'Consent Decree' (the order agreed to by TESI to make extensive improvements), if every system stood on its own, some consumers would be paying as much as \$40 a month for water and that is just not reasonable."

TESI asked the Commission for a flat-rate system of \$28.38 monthly for water and \$30.87 for sewer. Instead, the commission approved a monthly charge of \$19.80 for water and \$18.60 for sewer.

The commission also wants TESI to meter all water systems, but higher rates cannot be put into effect until all meters are installed and the PSC can verify other improvements.

The metered rate would be: \$14 monthly for the first 2,000 gallons; \$1.75 per 1,000 gallons for the next 5,000 gallons; and \$2.00 per 1,000 gallons for usage over 7,000 gallons.

"TESI asked this commission to give them money for a promise that they would do the work," said Callahan. "This commission doesn't work that way. If TESI or any other company does work to the system that is prudent, the law says they are entitled to a return on that investment, but only after the work is

completed. Once TESI has done the 2002 improvements and the Public Utilities Staff verifies it, the company will then be allowed a return on that investment, provided meters have been installed."

The state Health Department, DEQ and the PSC have wanted water systems across the state to install meters. He said promising utilities new rates for metered systems will give each an incentive to get the meters in as soon as possible.

He said meters also will give customers some control over the cost of their water bill.

Callahan said the decision reached by the commission regarding TESI's rate requests was fair to the consumer and to TESI.

He also had a parting statement to TESI customers who wrote in to comment on the rate requests.

"I want you to know I read your letters and understand your issues, but I

believe this company is going to turn these systems around. When they finish, TESI will have invested over \$2 million dollars into the systems. It is just taking some time to address the years of neglect," said Callahan.

TESI, based in Baton Rouge, took over operations of 20 sewage treatment plants and 14 water systems in Mississippi in December of 2000 and additional plants in Louisiana and other states after the previous owner, Johnson Utilities, filed bankruptcy. The bankruptcy came after the Louisiana DEQ ordered Johnson Utilities to pay millions in fines for violating the federal Clean Water Act. TESI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association (SLECO).

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County to host quarter horse show

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

For the first time since 1993, the American Quarter Horse Association competition will return to Hancock County.

The three-day show, which is called "Sun N Fun," is sponsored by the Hancock County Riding Club, and will be held April 26-28 in the new Hancock County Covered Arena off Kiln-DeLisle Road.

Trudy Cuevas, secretary of the Hancock County Equine Arena Board, invites everyone to come out and experience first-hand the excitement of competition.

Cuevas said, "There will be participants from all over the United States competing in many areas, from pleasure to timed events." She said this is the 27th year of the competition, and the annual event is the second oldest continuous running quarter horse event in Mississippi.

"Friday night will be a special event just for barrel racing and pole-bending enthusiasts," Cuevas said.

She explained people who exhibit at an American Quarter Horse Show earn points that turn into awards

or cash at the end of the year.

By competing, exhibitors and horses can qualify for the American Quarter Horse Association or American Quarter Horse Youth Association World Championship shows, the premier events in the entire equine industry, she said.

"We welcome all American Quarter Horse owners, as well as anyone who has a passion for horses," said Bill Brewer, AQHA Executive Vice-President. "AQHA shows are fun, and anybody who has ever wanted to get involved with horses or compete at an AQHA show is encouraged to attend."

Cuevas said this year the Hancock County Riding Club is expecting over 400 entries from Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, as well as from Mississippi. Competitors range in age from under 13, to 14-18, to adults and seniors.

For more information, contact Nancy L. Russ at 228/533-7031. The AQHA national phone number is 1/806-376-4811, and its web site is www.AQHA.com.

CCA banquet, auction set for Friday in BSL

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

The Bay Chapter's second annual Fund Raising Banquet of the Coastal Conservation Association will be Friday, April 19 at Our Lady of the Gulf Community Center.

Social hour will begin at 6 p.m. There will be live and silent auctions, raffles, door prizes and a meal.

Bay chapter's Banquet Committee members have been working for several months planning this event, and it will be the chapter's largest fund raiser of the year.

Auction and raffle items include a 15-horsepower Mercury outboard, a great selection of Shiman reels, Okuma reels, and fine art

work.

Also, a blue water fishing trip with Captain Peace Marvel (the premier guide in Venice, La.), a two-day deer hunt for two (meals and lodging included), a two-night stay at the Monteleone Hotel (French Quarter, New Orleans) and a six-person, three-day Chandeaur fishing trip on The Southern Way are some of the many auction items.

Tickets are \$35 per person or \$50 per couple, available at Pelican Cove Marine (228-452-7390). Tickets may also be purchased by contacting John Rosetti, 860-1023, Cary Trapani, 452-0238; Chris Trapani, 466-4808, or Greg Pitts, 452-1145.

'Earthly Creations' series on display Sat.

"Earthly Creations, A Premier Celebration of Life," will be presented in conjunction with Earth Day at Da Beach House this Saturday at 7 p.m.

The show features a

series of oil paintings inspired by the natural beauty of the MS Gulf Coast, as interpreted by Earth Events Artistic Director Chris Hill. Call 467-9477 for more.

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Social singles plan weekend events

On Saturday, April 20 at 9 a.m. Social Singles is sponsoring a day at Greenwood Stables - Horseback Riding in Biloxi. You must reserve a spot since this is by appointment, \$20/person/hour in groups of 5 or more. If we have 24 people they have offered a free barbecue to horse riders and \$10 for non-riders.

Contact Joyce by April 18 at 452-2358.

Social Singles will meet on Saturday, April 20 for a Pre-Concert Dinner at 5:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 2301 15th Street, Gulfport, \$8 adults, \$4 children 10 and under.

The concert begins at 7 p.m. featuring "IONA" noted to be the "best Celtic music America has to offer." Tickets for adults \$10 where childcare is provided. Contact Joyce at 452-2358 for further details.

On Sunday, April 21 Social Singles will sponsor an afternoon at Honey Island Swamp Tours in Slidell. Reservations are required. Contact Joyce by April 18 at 452-2358.

Social Singles will meet

for their "Movie Night Out" on Saturday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m. at Brooklyn Pizza at the Hardy Court, off Courthouse Road and Pass Roads in Gulfport and take in a movie at the Hardy Court Cinema.

For more information call Joyce at 452-2358.

On Monday, April 22, Social Singles plan their night out at Casino Magic's Evening of Comedy.

The show is in the Eclipse Showroom at 8:30 p.m. called the COMEDY EXPRESS.

Meet at 7:45 p.m. at the benches outside the Savannah Restaurant which is to the left as you enter the casino. Give yourselves at least 20 minutes to get good seats. Contact Joyce at 452-2358 for further details.

On Tuesday, April 23 at 6 p.m. Social Singles will meet at the Noodle Bar at the Grand Biloxi and then attend "The Elvis Story" where tickets are \$19.95.

Call (800) WIN-2-WIN to check on ticket availability. For more information contact Joyce at 452-2358.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Governor Ronnie Musgrove, along with Mississippi Department of Human Services Executive Director Janice Broome Brooks, gathered Friday, April 5 on the second floor Rotunda to officially launch the Blue Ribbon Campaign and declare April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

The campaign included a proclamation from Governor Musgrove proclaiming April as the "Month of the Child."

Mississippians were asked to help protect the state's future and one of our most precious assets by supporting the Blue Ribbon Child Abuse Prevention Campaign during the month of April.

Brooks, who is also the campaign spokesperson this year, said: "Our children need homes free of physical or emotional neglect and free from verbal, sexual, or emotional abuse. Every child deserves a home that is safe."

In 2001, there were

16,932 reports of child abuse and/or neglect made in Mississippi.

MDHS, through its division of family and children's services, worked in partnership with other state agencies and children's advocacy organizations to teach positive parenting skills and to educate the public about child abuse, its consequences and ways to prevent abuse.

The Blue Ribbon Campaign was launched in 1989 by a grandmother in Virginia who tied a blue

ribbon to her car as a testament to her three-year-old grandson. The blue ribbon served as a reminder of the bruises she had witnessed on her grandson before his death.

Mississippians who wish to show their support may pick up blue ribbons at the MDHS state or county offices.

Mississippians are also asked to report any instance or suspected instance of abuse or neglect to the child abuse hotline at 1-800-222-8000.

Hancock County kindergarten roundup

The Hancock County School District has four kindergarten round-up days scheduled for registration and screening of Kindergarten students who will attend school beginning in the 2002-2003 school year.

Charles B. Murphy Elementary, 6098 1st Street in Pearlinton has registration on Friday, April 19 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Gulfview Elementary, 6590 Lakeshore Road, in

Bay St. Louis will hold registration on Friday, April 26 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

East Hancock Elementary, 4221 Kiln-DeLisle Road in Kiln, will hold a joint registration and orientation on Friday, May 3 from 8:30 a.m. to noon for all parents of new kindergarten students.

Hancock North Central Elementary, 6122 Cuevas Town Road in Kiln will hold a roundup on Friday, May 10 from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Parents should bring

their child's certified birth certificate, certificate of compliance (shot record), two proofs of residency, and the child's social security card.

Vision, hearing, speech, and basic physical screenings will be offered. Health department immunizations will NOT be available at the round-up days.

Immunizations of DTaP, IPV, MMR, Hepatitis B, and Varicella (chicken pox) are given on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 to 11

a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the Hancock County Health Department on Longfellow Road.

Cost is \$10 per shot unless a child has Medicaid or CHIPS. For more information, contact C.B. Murphy at 533-7872, East Hancock at 255-6637, Gulfview at 467-4655 or HNCE at 255-7641.

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It's Time To Dine Out! Spotlight on Dining 2002

Southern Delights

Southern Delights, owned and operated by Neil Favre, is truly a treat for your taste buds. Favre opened the restaurant only 1-year ago and already has a loyal following and an excellent reputation for providing really delicious food at reasonable prices.

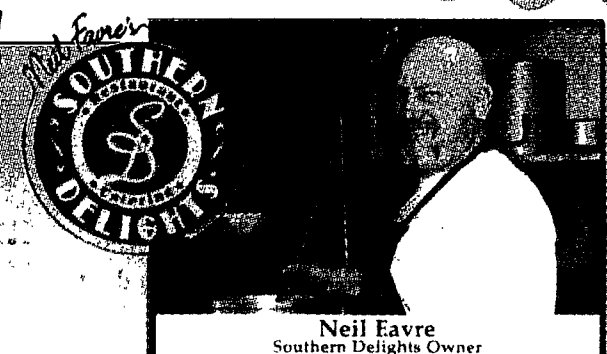
Every dish is freshly prepared to order and the portions are more than generous. Take for example the fried green tomatoes with cucumber sauce or the fried eggplant with crab fingers and shrimp with hollandaise for only \$6.95. Be sure to try the spinach artichoke dip served hot with chips for only \$4.99. Seafood gumbo, some of the best I've ever had, is available daily as well as a soup of the day.

If you are trying to eat light, order one of Southern Delights' fantastic salads. Boiled shrimp salad, grilled or fried shrimp salad, or the grilled, fried or blackened chicken salad are all excellent choices.

Southern Delights also grills steaks! Choose a 8 oz. or 12 oz. ribeye prepared to perfection served with a loaded potato and salad for a reasonable \$12.49 for the 8 oz. and only \$15.95 for the 12 oz.

Southern Delights has some of the most delicious specialty dishes such as the snapper, the grilled tuna or the stuffed crab platter. A very popular dish is Favre's own seafood medley: perfectly prepared marmalade, laced with shrimp, crawfish and crab served over pasta. The fried seafood plates are generous, especially the Seafood Platter. It consists of catfish, shrimp, oysters and frog legs, delicately fried to a golden brown, delicious! Of course Southern Delights serves all of your favorite traditional po-boys and sandwiches, and some not so traditional like the portabella mushroom sandwich. (You just have to try it, it's really good!) Try the grilled chicken sandwich with onions, mushrooms and swiss served on a Kaiser roll with french fries. Favre selects a lunch and a dinner special which changes daily except on Mondays, that's red beans and rice day, of course. And what better to top off a great meal than a delicious homemade dessert! The bread pudding with rum walnut sauce is fantastic as is the strawberry pecan cake, hummingbird cake or the banana pudding.

Lunch is served Monday through Saturday



Neil Favre
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and dinner is served Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday.

Make plans to bring the family to Southern Delights at 299B Hwy 90, corner of Dunbar and Hwy 90 in Bay St. Louis. You'll be glad you did!

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Casino Magic Bay St. Louis presents the incredibly talented Smothers Brothers. Friday, April 26 at 9 p.m. in the Magic Entertainment Complex.

Tickets are \$14.95, \$19.95 and \$24.95 and may be purchased through the Casino Magic Box Office at 1-800-5-MAGIC-5 or any Ticketmaster Outlet.

Time has been an essential ingredient in the Smothers Brothers' success. They have been considered ahead of their time, masters of timing and practitioners of timeless comedy.

Now as they mark over 42 years in show business, the Smothers Brothers are being saluted as time-honored legends whose lengthy career has surpassed all other comedy teams in history.

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The Smothers Brothers

testimonial to their intuitive humor, natural warmth, superlative showmanship and the pure unadulterated joy they bring to audiences all of all ages.

The Smothers Brothers'

first professional appearance was at The Purple Onion in San Francisco in 1959 and their first national television appearance was on The Jack Paar show on January 28, 1961. Over four decades of audiences have

seen the Smothers Brothers in their own primetime comedy series in the 1960's, 1970's, and 1980's, guest appearances on numerous television programs, countless engagements as headliners in Las Vegas, Reno and Lake Tahoe, a hot-selling video, 12 top-selling albums, as well as continuous coast-to-coast concert tours, some with symphony orchestras.

On the personal side, both Tom and Dick pursue their interests with the same fervor as their work. Whenever the opportunity presents itself, Dick can be found cycling or practicing yoga.

Even on the road, he doesn't miss a beat as he maintains a disciplined regimen of robust workouts at the nearest health club.

Equally at home in the

kitchen, Dick is known to conjure up delicious heart healthy cuisine. Dick doesn't merely pursue an interest, he masters it.

Tom's pastime passion is for golf, which is no surprise to the millions of viewer who have followed him through the various pro-am tournaments he plays each year.

True to form, however, Tom is not simply content to being one of the most popular attractions on the golf circuit. Ever inventive, he decided the game needed an added feature: the yo-yo.

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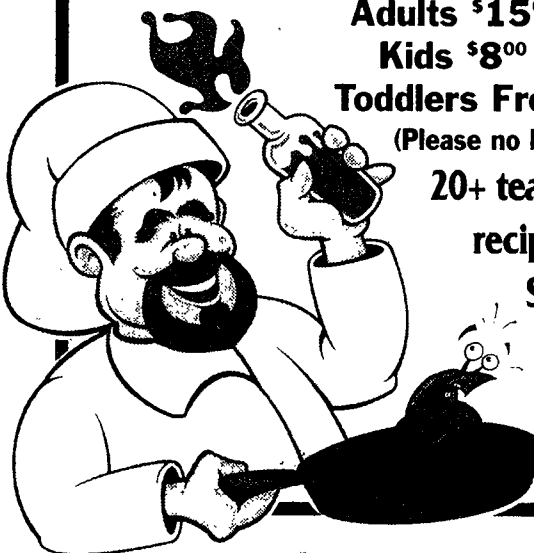
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Musicians Arden and Jordan Jenner, front, and Emily Duke, rear, play period music for "The Hobbit" and Renaissance Fair on Saturday, April 27, at the Discovery Center.

Renaissance Fair at Discovery Center

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

The Lynn Meadows Discovery Center celebrates its fourth birthday on Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., with a Renaissance Fair for families.

"Our birthday is a celebration of who we are," says Betsy Grant, director of the Discovery Center, "and the folks at Lynn Meadows Discovery Center are delighted to offer a fresh new face with our Renaissance Fair."

Visitors will create damsel hats, knight helmets, ribbon wreaths, scepters and coat of arms while learning techniques of medieval metal smithing, Sistine Chapel art and stained glass painting.

Jesters, jugglers and madrigal musicians will entertain visitors.

Children will participate in knighthood ceremonies at the Royal Hall and design 3-D maps of medieval fiefdoms.

Tossing horse shoes, launching catapults, dancing around the traditional May Pole and making sand castles will complete the theme activities.

The event fee for this fun-filled day is \$2.50 with membership or admission.

Then at 1 p.m. visitors can enjoy a performance of "The Hobbit," Tolkien's classic tale about a young

Hobbit who sets off with a band of adventurers to slay a dragon and recover an enormous treasure.

"The Hobbit" is presented by WINGS Performing Arts Program and is staged in the tree houses at the Discovery Center. The tickets are \$2.50.

Eat like a king from a grilled menu for sale - chicken on a lance, steak on a stake, turkey legs and more.

The Discovery Center was recently selected as one the USA's top 50 children's museums. The admission to the Discovery Center is \$6 per person, and memberships start at \$40 for two people. For more information call 897-6039.

Jazzland now open weekends half price

EXTRA SPECIAL

The excitement and fervor begins again at Jazzland Theme Park. Opening day for the 2002 season was Saturday. The park also announced special Spring Preview Days featuring half-price admission.

During the month of April all guests may purchase a single day admission ticket at the park for half off the regular admission price. This offer is valid on any Saturday or Sunday through April 28. Regular admission prices are \$32 for adults and \$25 for children under 48 inches (plus tax and assessment). Hours of operation during the Spring Preview Days will be 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday.

Jazzland will be open weekends through May 19, daily operation begins May 25, and the fall hours start August 24. The season ends October 27. Times and dates are subject to change without notice.

In addition Jazzland's Season Thrill Passes are available for \$39.99 for a limited time only. The regular Season Pass price is \$49.99. Price plus tax and assessment. The Season Thrill Pass is Jazzland's best ticket value. Enjoy the rides, shows and attractions all season long for one great price. For additional information about Jazzland, call 504-253-8100 or visit Jazzland online at JazzlandThemePark.com.

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COMMUNITY

Pg 1B

Heirloom tree earns 2002 Medallion



SOUTHERN GARDENING
BY NORMAN WINTER
MSU Horticulturist
Central Mississippi
Research & Extension
Center

Not all award-winning plants for 2002 are new, and the Mississippi Medallion Plant Selections Committee is announcing this spring that a small, heirloom tree is a 2002 winner.

Vitex, or lilac chaste tree, is native to Sicily and is a member of the verbenaceae family. It was recognized by the Greeks for its medicinal properties, and it is recorded to have been in cultivation in British gardens since 1570.

Today, this award-winning tree is definitely seeing a revival across the South. No one will fail to take notice of a blooming vitex.

It is loaded with fragrant, bright-blue flowers resembling those of a buddleia but held erect. Not only are there the standard blue varieties but also pink and white-flowered forms as well.

The vitex can be grown as a small, elegant tree reaching 15 to 20 feet in height or kept as a large shrub with regular pruning. As a shrub, it is at home in the perennial or cottage garden. As a small tree, use it as an accent or specimen.

Choose a well-drained and fertile bed in full sun. Dig the planting hole three to five times as wide as the rootball, but no deeper. The top of the rootball should be even with the soil profile.

If planting in mid-summer, form a 4-inch berm outside the rootball area that is large enough to hold five gallons of water. The berm makes it easy to direct water to the needed area. Remove the berm after the first year.

Deciduous and easy to grow, vitex has virtually no pests or diseases. Feed in late winter with an application of a slow-release, 12-6-6 fertilizer per 100 square feet of planted area.

After the bloom cycle, deadhead blossoms and give another light application of fertilizer. Maintain adequate moisture and another bloom cycle will occur toward the end of summer.

The vitex/lilac chaste tree also has the common name of Monk's tree. The fruit or seedpods were dried and made into a powder for ingesting.

Surprisingly, it diminished the passionate desires of the monks. In ancient Greece, it is said that the dames of Athens during the feast of the goddess Ceres, made their pallets and beds

Each year, dozens of Hancock County aviation enthusiasts fly east for a spring get-together with fellow flyers, turning a tiny airfield into the busiest airport in the nation and adding to the ...

Thunder over Florida



Echo staff photos by Bennie Shallbetter
A sample of every flying contraption imaginable is on display at Lakeland Linder Airport in Florida for Sun 'n Fun 2002.

Locals have just 'plane' fun at Sun 'n Fun in Lakeland, Fla.

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

For one week out of the year Lakeland Linder Regional Airport in Lakeland, Florida becomes the busiest airport in the country as it is transformed into a mini-city for the yearly fly-in, Sun 'N Fun - and plays host to dozens of guests from Hancock County. From bare fields spring a thriving commu-

nity of aviation enthusiasts from across the world.

April 7-13 the grounds were a center for 400 educational forums and seminars, 500 commercial vendors, eight airshows, including a night airshow, and campers ranging from motor homes to tents under plane wings. The event attracted about 650,000 spectators this year.

The entire operation is made possible by hundreds of volunteers, including the airshow performers, who do everything from trash pickup, to sandwich making, to running the event's own radio station and media center.

PLANES--PAGE 7B



Berni Breen, Wendell Durr, Jerry Curtin (with son Tristan), all of Diamondhead, and Michael Shallbetter, of Bay St. Louis, get together for some plane talk last week at the Sun 'n Fun.

Black troops on Ship Island

Views From a Front Porch

by Paul Estronza La Violette
laviolette@mail.datasync.com

Editor's note: The following article ran incorrectly in Sunday's edition of The Sea Coast Echo.

Last week marked the anniversary of a little known skirmish which occurred in Pascagoula between black Union Soldiers and Confederate Militia. It was an interesting skirmish and it might be interesting to repeat it here.

The black soldiers were the

2nd Louisiana Native Guard Volunteers confined to duty on Ship Island, ten miles off our coast. In essence, they were a forgotten regiment stationed in an out of the way place.

The black soldiers were under the command of a white Union army colonel Nathan W. Daniels who felt strong empathy with the former slaves of his command and the obscure post they occupied. He poured his thoughts into a diary that today presents a rare insightful

narrative of the ways things were.

This intriguing diary of his command of black soldiers on Ship Island has been edited by C. P. Weaver and published by Louisiana State University Press in *Thank God My Regiment an African One*.

What follows is an extract from Daniels' Diary that gives a vivid account of the one chance that the black troops had to display their capabilities as soldiers. It describes a fierce skirmish just a short distance down our coast in East



Excerpts from an actual civil war journal relating events at Ship Island.

VIEWS--PAGE 7B

GARDEN--PAGE 7B

Imagine a little league players attempt to One child fracture; or the third of What would Dr. Jam an ortho addressed more during injury clinic Medical Ce Accordir the best most on-th by educati ents and p proper tech all the d baseball ar is upon us. ed a great cussing the America's f One of f stop base- is to insta which gua tures. Als advised to ty before e the field, t and the du "Having ment is cr said. "But, sure the working or Wearing equipment preventing Catchers s met, a fac gangling-t tor and a c anyone wa er, both pl es.

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Health & Fitness

A special publication of The Sea Coast Echo



Massage therapy: Healing arts in BSL

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Andora Smith has always held an interest in healing, art and nature, which over the course of time led her to the healing art of massage, which she has practiced in our area for the past 13 years. She completed her training in the art in Hawaii, where therapeutic massage is a highly-respected and stringently-regulated profession.

"As a child, I rescued and restored hurt wildlife," she said. "And it was here that I discovered that I had a talent for healing."

Before becoming a massage therapist, Andora attended several art schools in the East, where she grew up, including Parsons School of Design. She later apprenticed with a production potter at the renowned Torpedo Factory in Virginia. The experience led her to the opportunity to become one of a group of artists working under a grant to beautify city buildings and teach underprivileged children the art of pottery.

Her travels took her to New York, where she studied dance and Swedish massage, while working as a yoga instructor at a fitness center.

There she became immersed in the study of yoga in her never-ending search for serenity.

Like many young people at the time, Smith said, she studied various religions such as Buddhism, but was always drawn back to her roots in Christianity.

"Because Jesus was and is the real magical healer," she said.

It was at that time that Smith made her trip to Hawaii and there found her true calling, healing through therapeutic massage. She had the opportunity to study under masters



Andora Smith, a licensed massage therapist, demonstrates her massage chair on the porch of her shop on Court Street in Bay St. Louis.

from Japan, the Philippines, and local healers, including the world-renowned, Margaret Machado, among others.

Her decision to return to the mainland stemmed partly from the need to be closer to her aging parents and partly from her daughter's desire to return. They chose the Coast because they had lived in New Orleans and also in Hammond and liked the area.

At the time of the family's return, there were basically no regulations on the practice of massage in Mississippi.

"People didn't know what to think of me, a single mother (with a son Nicholas, now 14; and a daughter Swanna, now 27), practicing massage and coming from Hawaii," Smith said. "I encountered a lot of opposition in the beginning, but now some of the people who opposed my

practice are my clients."

After more than ten years, the state has finally passed laws regulating the profession and as of December 31, all practitioners must have at least 700 hours of training from a certified school to obtain a license.

Smith specializes in deep tissue work and chronic pain relief, including fibromyalgia pain.

"I listen to the client's story, do an assessment, and tailor the experience to the client's needs, working on muscles unique to their problem," she said. "Much emotional trauma is held in the muscles and massage can relieve this as well as physical pain. I want my clients to feel respected and comfortable and leave feeling happy about the experience."

If you would like to try the experience, Smith can be reached at 467-8252. She works by appointment.

Relieving post-partum stress

Having a baby can be a joyous event, but many women experience a period of depression and anxiety after the birth of their child. Known as postpartum stress, there are ways to help alleviate some of the conditions so that you can enjoy the new life you've created. Here are some helpful tips, courtesy of LocalMom.com.

- Ask for help. Don't feel you have to do everything yourself. Most people don't know what to do for new parents. Tell them you want them to cook a meal, do the laundry, shop or hold the baby while you shower.
- Get some sleep. Don't forget to make sure you sleep. Just an hour or two can improve your mood and lessen your stress.

- Talk to someone. Many new mothers feel isolated and cut off from other adults. Join a new mothers group.
- Make sure you eat, drink and get your vitamins. Low blood sugar can make you feel blue.
- Get some exercise. Take a short walk, dance around in your kitchen or living room.

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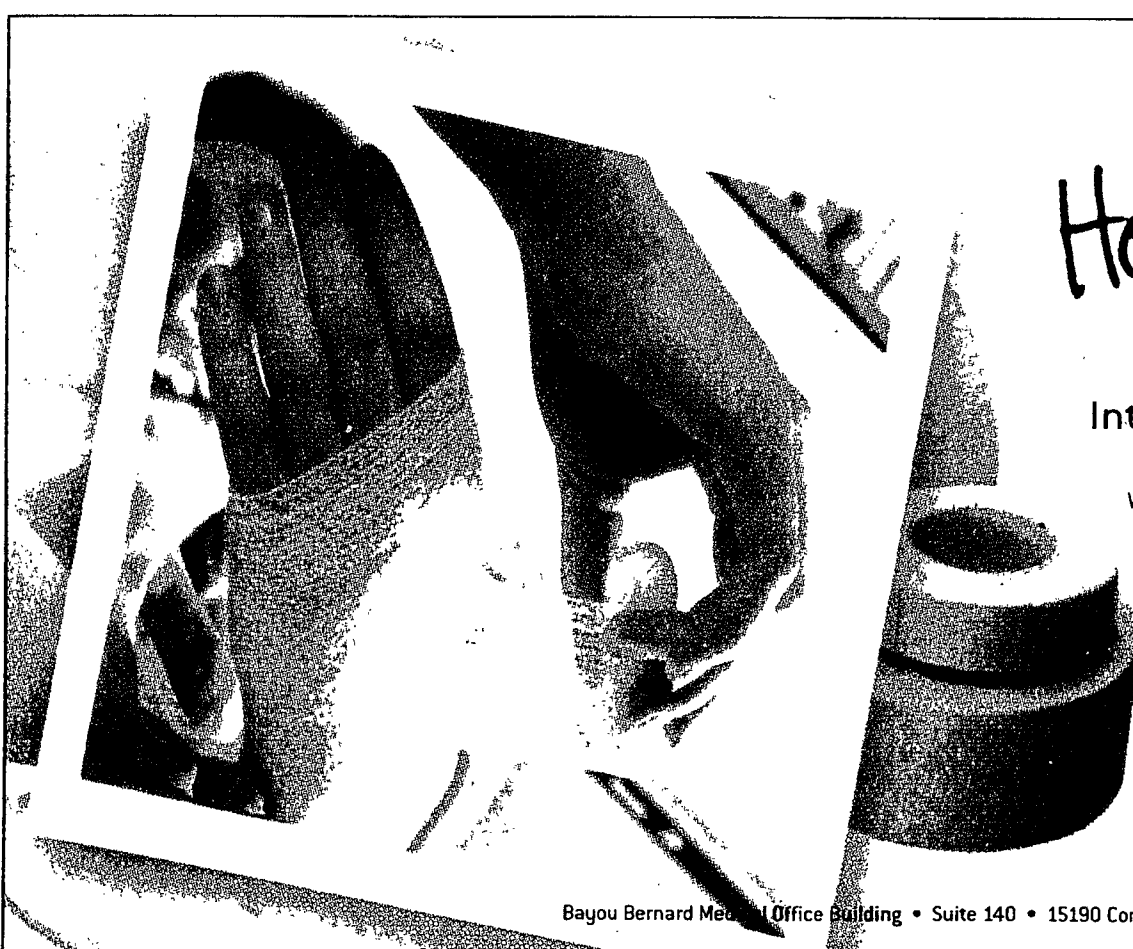
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Health & Fitness

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Sports injury prevention tips

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Imagine that you are the a little league coach. Three players collide in an attempt to catch a pop fly. One child has an obvious fracture; one is unconscious; the third child seems fine. What would you do?

Dr. James Thriffley, IV, an orthopedic surgeon, addressed these issues and more during a recent sports injury clinic at Hancock Medical Center.

According to Thriffley, the best way to prevent most on-the-field injuries is by educating coaches, parents and players. Knowing proper techniques can make all the difference. Since baseball and softball season is upon us, Thriffley devoted a great deal of time discussing the dos and don'ts of America's favorite pastime.

One of the best ways to stop base-running injuries is to install safety bases, which guard against fractures. Also, coaches are advised to survey the facility before each game. Check the field, the bases, fences and the dugout.

"Having the right equipment is critical," Thriffley said. "But you have to make sure the equipment is in working order."

Wearing the proper equipment is also key in preventing injuries. Catchers should wear a helmet, a facemask with the dangling-type throat protector and a cup - this goes for anyone warming up a pitcher, both players and coaches.

When a batter is in place, full equipment should be worn, including chest protector and shin guards, to guard against any foul balls.

Thriffley also addressed Commodo cordis, a rare condition in which a ball strikes the chest of player causing heart failure and sudden death.

Although fatal, this injury can be prevented by teaching players a few proper techniques. Players should keep their gloves in front of their bodies, between the body and the ball in the field.

Batters should be taught to curl their lead shoulders toward the body so that inside pitches will strike their backs or sides.

For musculo-skeletal injuries, the principles of immediate management are ICE - Ice (with bags of crushed ice or frozen gel packs), Compression (with an ace wrap), and Elevation (above the level of the heart). The injury should be wrapped so tight as to cut off circulation or cause numbness.

In the case of an obvious fracture, a splint can be applied, using an ace wrap to hold the splint in place. If a bone has broken the surface of the skin, it should not be forced back under the skin. Instead, the victim should be transported to the hospital as quickly as possible.

All injuries should be followed up with proper medical evaluation. The victim should not be given anything to eat or drink - not even water - as this can complicate emergency medical treatment.

HEAT EXPOSURE

The exception to the no liquid rule is in the case of injuries caused by heat exposure. Children are at a higher risk for these types of injuries because their heat regulating processes are not fully developed and their skin surfaces are proportionately higher than an



Surprise celebration

Waveland residents Mercedes and Edwin Andry were recently caught off-guard with an impromptu 60th anniversary celebration hosted by instructors and fellow exercisers in the Hancock Medical Center cardiac rehab program. New Orleans natives, the Andrys were married 60 years ago at Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church.

adult's skin surface. There are two basic types of heat-related injuries - heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Heat exhaustion can cause profuse sweating, clammy skin, dizziness, nausea, a pale or flushed complexion and a near normal body temperature.

People suffering from heat exhaustion should be moved to a cool place. Lie them on their backs with their feet elevated. Give them a half glass of water

every 15 minutes and seek medical help.

Victims of heat stroke have a high body temperature (usually above 105 degrees), no sweating, hot or dry, flushed skin, and even loss of consciousness.

Medical help should be called immediately. Sponge the victim with cool water and also give them half a glass of water every 15 minutes, if they are conscious.

In this instance, it might be best to lie the victim on

his side to help evaporate heat from the body.

"Lying the victim on his side is best, especially if he has lost consciousness," Thriffley said. "This can help prevent asphyxiation."

HEAD/NECK INJURIES

"Anytime there is a head injury, it should be treated as a cervical injury," Thriffley cautioned. "Until the victim is conscious enough to control his neck movement, the neck should be stabilized, especially before moving."

Concussions, marked by a loss of consciousness or change in mental status are also a problem in youth sports. If the child loses consciousness for more than a few seconds, possible overnight observation is needed.

If there is no loss of consciousness, then the child should be monitored for any changes in behavior, nausea, or dizziness, he said.

The best treatment for a concussion is to allow the victim time to completely heal. This can prevent second-impact syndrome, which can cause brain swelling and even death.

"Youth sports can and should be fun," Thriffley said. "But educating yourself and your child in the proper techniques can make a fun experience a safe experience as well."

Would you know if your child needed help?

Not all children with clinical depression appear sad. Symptoms of depression among children include increased irritability, frequent headaches or stomach aches, sudden changes in sleeping or eating patterns, low energy and poor concentration. Depression doesn't go away by itself and can destroy the quality of your child's life. Don't wait to find out.

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LAYAWAY



New study: Too much weight gain during pregnancy may increase risk of breast cancer

BY DANIEL Q. HANEY
AP Medical Editor

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — In a new twist on the dangers of extra weight, a study found that women who gain too much during pregnancy face an increased risk of breast cancer later in life.

Doctors have long known that obesity increases a woman's chance of breast cancer. In fact, staying slim is one of the few things a woman can do that clearly lowers her risk.

But the latest study suggests that piling on the pounds during pregnancy may be especially hazardous.

The study, presented Tuesday, found that women who put on more than 38 pounds during pregnancy had a 40 percent increased risk of developing breast cancer after menopause. The risk before menopause was no higher than usual.

Fat cells produce estrogen, and many believe the extra hormone is what puts overweight women at high-

er risk of breast cancer. Dr. Leena Hilakivi-Clarke, who directed the study, said that getting a burst of estrogen during pregnancy may be especially bad.

During times when the breast is rapidly developing, estrogen might be particularly harmful. Pregnancy is one such period," she said.

Hilakivi-Clarke, a researcher at Georgetown University, presented the findings at a meeting in San Francisco of the American Association for Cancer Research.

The data are provocative because they suggest there may times when the breast is particularly susceptible to increased estrogen levels," said Dr. Joyce O'Shaughnessy, a breast cancer specialist at Baylor-Sammons Cancer Center in Dallas.

However, Dr. Eugenia Calle, director of analytic epidemiology at the American Cancer Society, questioned whether weight gain during pregnancy is

any worse than weight gain in general.

Many women fail to take off all the extra pounds after they give birth. Calle said women who put on an extra 30 to 50 pounds during adulthood face approximately double the usual risk of breast cancer after they reach menopause.

The message to women is to maintain their young adult weight through life," she said.

Hilakivi-Clarke said her team has not yet examined whether women who gain extra weight during pregnancy and then take it all off have an increased risk of later breast cancer.

Her study was based on a follow-up of 4,020 postmenopausal women in Finland, 185 of whom developed breast cancer at an average age of 58. The researchers checked medical records to see how much the women gained during pregnancy.

Adequate weight gain during pregnancy is essen-

tial to the baby's health. Guidelines from the Institute of Medicine say how much women need to put on depends on their body mass index, a widely used measure of fatness.

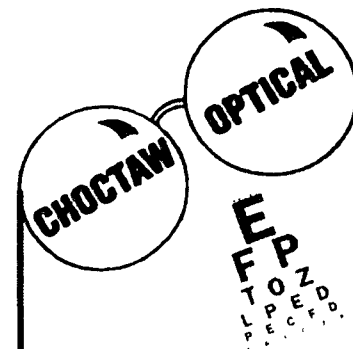
A woman who is underweight should gain 28 to 40 pounds. One who is normal weight should gain 25 to 35 pounds. Someone who is overweight should add 15 to 25 pounds. And obese women should put on no more than 15 pounds.

Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggest most pregnant women probably put on more than this. In 2000, the median weight gain was almost 31 pounds. Twelve percent put on 46 pounds or more.

Pregnancy itself can protect against breast cancer, though only if women get pregnant by age 20. Those who get pregnant after age 30 actually have a higher risk than women who never have children. Breast-feeding also is modestly protec-

tive.

EDITOR'S NOTE:
Medical Editor Daniel Q. Haney is a special correspondent for The Associated Press.



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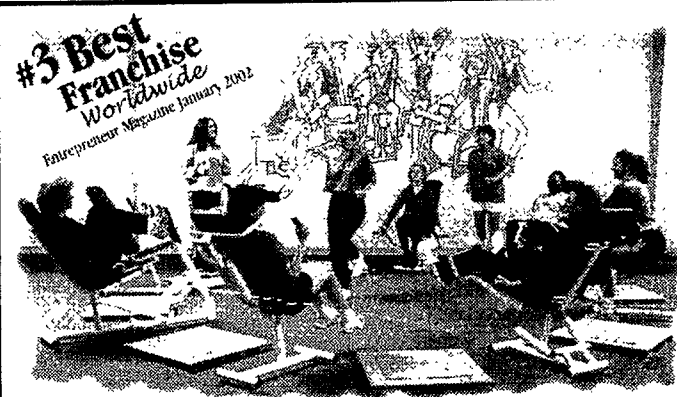
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'Stress' communication to help kids cope

(TE) — You may have said it yourself at some point — "Ah, to be a kid again." As providers and caretakers, grownups tend to view the world of children as happy and carefree. After all, what could children possibly have to stress about?

Stress is a normal, unavoidable part of life; it affects everyone. Just as you may become stressed by a hectic week at the office, a toddler can be stressed when there is a change in his or her daily routine; a school-age child can be stressed about an upcoming test; and a teen-ager feels stress about deciding what to do with his or her life. And children of all ages feel stressed when faced with complicating factors like divorce, illness, death or the arrival of a new baby. In addition, well-meaning parents sometimes unintentionally add stress in their children's lives, especially if they themselves have been very successful. Children who lack their parents' capabilities or motivation may end up feeling frustrated.

And, just as too much stress is physically and emotionally harmful to you, it can also harm your child. Proper rest and nutrition can go a long way towards improving your child's coping skills, as can good parenting. Here is a look at some common causes of stress in children and what you can do to help, courtesy of www.about.com.

PRESCHOOLERS

In general, the younger the child, the less likely he or she is to be able to communicate the problem in words. They have little control over their own lives and are too young to have devel-



Communication is key — spend time together as a family each day talking or just clowning around.

oped the problem-solving skills necessary to work through situations on their own.

Separation from parents is the biggest cause of anxiety in preschool-aged children, however there are other common stressful situations: starting or changing day-care or preschool; the arrival of a new baby or family member; sickness; being disciplined and toilet training.

You can tell if your child is suffering from too much stress if he or she has less energy than normal, is irritable, has nightmares or trouble sleeping, has more frequent temper tantrums, becomes more clinging or demanding or is crying more than usual. As a parent, it's up to you to recognize these warning signs and help your child through the difficulty. Never tell children that their fears are silly; they feel very real to them. Encourage your child to talk about his or her fears. He or she needs to learn to say things like "I'm afraid of the dark." Then, explain what's going on in simple, reassuring language. Ease his or her tension by offering understand-

ing, support, and plenty of affection.

SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

Life gets harder for a child between the ages of 6 and 12. Once in school, children are faced with the dual pressures of home and the outside world that involves school, friends and a whole new range of emotions.

Typical stressors include: having an unusual name; test-taking; difficulty with a teacher; being teased, bullied or criticized; worrying about a changing body; taking on more chores; a heavy activity schedule; and arguments with parents, siblings or friends.

Signs that stress is getting to your child include withdrawing or regressing to younger behavior, bed-wetting, sleep difficulty, speech problems and problem teeth. Other symptoms include falling grades or behavioral problems at school, stealing, lying,

cheating, sadness, crying, fights, frequent falls and accidents.

The children who are best able to cope with stress are those who have supportive and understanding parents. Think back to when you were his or her age and try to understand what he or she is going through. Encourage your child to talk things over and help your child to think through problems. Remember, communication is key. It's important to spend time together as a family each day clowning around, eating dinner or just talking.

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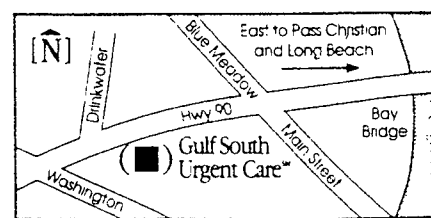
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Health & Fitness

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Public Health officials preparing for very busy mosquito season

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — State public health officials are anticipating a record number of encephalitis-carrying mosquitoes this year and they're encouraging local governments to improve mosquito control programs.

"We are encouraging parishes to tighten the ship, the way they would before a hurricane," state epidemiologist Dr. Raoult Ratard said. "You don't know if the hurricane will hit, but you want to be ready in case it does."

Residents are also being urged to protect themselves with bug spray and by keeping an eye for possible mosquito breeding grounds in their backyards.

Already this year, two people, one in Shreveport and one in Baton Rouge, have been diagnosed with encephalitis, a deadly brain-swelling disease carried by the pesky bloodsuckers.

Four strains of the disease have been detected in Louisiana so far: St. Louis, West Nile, Eastern equine and California.

Last August, an outbreak of St. Louis encephalitis in the Monroe area killed

three people and sent 70 others to the hospital. In October, the state's first case of the West Nile virus in a human was diagnosed in Kenner.

"Usually there is a break in the season. But this started last August and has never stopped," Ratard said. "We may have a very tough year ahead."

It is the St. Louis and West Nile strains that concern public health officials the most, they say, because those are the strains most likely to result in an outbreak. The most deadly form of encephalitis is Eastern equine, which often strikes children and causes brain damage or death in about 40 percent of those infected. Because of last year's brush with West Nile, Jefferson Parish has hired an independent entomologist to evaluate measures taken by Mosquito Control Inc., the company the parish hired to take care of its mosquito population.

"We are doing this out of an abundance of caution," said Chief Administrative Assistant of Operations Deano Bonano. "We want to get on top of this right now."

'Skeeter-cheater' advice

The Iowa Department of Public Health recommends the following tips for reducing mosquito breeding and avoiding mosquito bites:

- TO REDUCE MOSQUITO BREEDING:**
- Empty containers that hold water, such as flowerpots.
 - Cover tires that are stored outside, so that they are unable to collect rainwater.
 - Repair leaky outdoor faucets.
 - Keep gutters clean and in good repair.
 - Stock ponds with fish that eat mosquito larvae.
 - Fill in potholes and puddles.
 - Change water in birdbaths, pet bowls and wading pools every 3 to 4 days.

- TO AVOID MOSQUITO BITES:**
- Wear long sleeved shirts and long pants.
 - Avoid outdoor activities during the early evening hours when mosquitoes are most active.
 - Use mosquito repellents containing permethrin, a medicine used to treat head lice, or 35 percent DEET. Repellents should be applied to clothing or onto the hands, and then rubbed on to exposed skin.
 - Repair any tears in window and door screens.

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

Medicare officials eye plans to expand coverage of image-guided breast biopsy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Medicare beneficiaries will have more options to having breast cancer diagnosed under expanded coverage announced by the government Monday.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services said it will expand the use of image guidance to include the biopsies of some palpable lesions, or lesions that can be felt by hand. Doctors

have said that just because a lesion can be felt by hand does not mean that it will be easy to biopsy.

With image-guided biopsy, imaging technology such as a stereotactic or ultrasound system guides doctors where to insert the biopsy needle. Image guidance also provides a less invasive alternative to surgical biopsy, in which a piece of tissue is surgically

removed.

The agency began three years ago paying for image guidance to biopsy nonpalpable lesions, which cannot be felt by hand.

"By expanding access to this diagnostic test, we are improving the quality of care for many Medicare beneficiaries," said Dr. Sean Tunis, director of the centers' Coverage and Analysis Group.

The new benefit will be put in use this year.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in American women and the second leading cause of cancer death among women. It is the most common cause of cancer deaths in women age 65 and older.

Try these humorous stress-busters for national Stress Awareness month

Sometimes laughter is the body's best defense against stressful circumstances. Therefore, in honor of Stress Awareness Month and National Laughter Month, here are some off-beat ways to beat stress before it beats you, courtesy of www.pintday.org (Warning: Medical science and your boss probably won't condone many of these remedies).

AT HOME

1. Use your MasterCard to pay your Visa bill and vice-versa.
2. Pop some popcorn without putting the lid on.
3. Leaf through National Geographic magazine and draw underwear on the natives.
4. Pay your electric bill in pennies.
5. Put your toddler's clothes on backwards and send him or her off to preschool as if nothing is wrong.

AT THE OFFICE

1. Page yourself over the intercom. (Don't disguise your voice.)
2. Make up nicknames for all of your coworkers and refer to them only by these

names.

3. Insist that your e-mail address be "zena_goddess_of_fire@companyname.com."

4. Encourage your colleagues to join you in a little synchronized chair dancing.
5. Put up mosquito netting around your cubicle.

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Health & Fitness

A special publication of The Sea Coast Echo



Practice poison prevention all year long

(TF) How many potentially poisonous substances are in your home? Automotive products and gardening supplies, household detergents, cleaners, those little packets in shoeboxes, even lotions and perfumes, there may be dozens. That's why poison prevention continues to be a national concern. March is Poison Prevention Awareness Month, the perfect time to learn about how to safely use, store and dispose of potentially hazardous products in and around your home, as well as protect children.

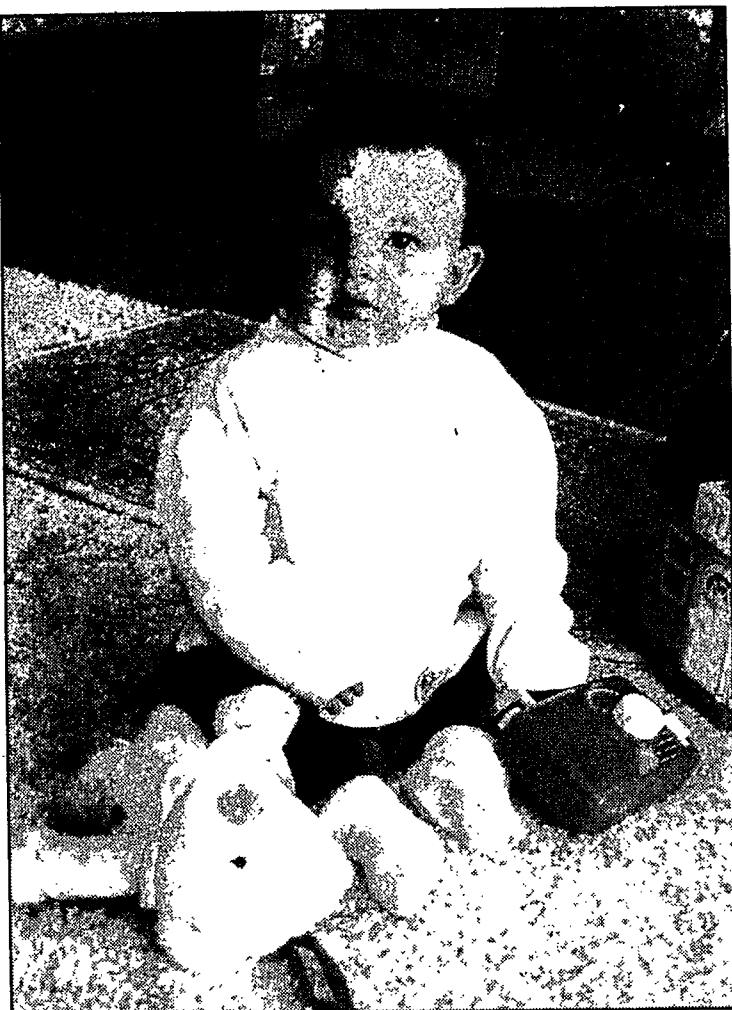
Each year, more than one million accidental poisonings are reported to poison control centers across the United States, and that number is rising. Although approximately 75 percent of incidents reported involve children, it's important to remember that accidental poisoning can occur at any age. Following are some important guidelines that can help you to protect yourself and loved ones, courtesy of the Labelit Poison Foundation (www.labelit-poison.com).

CHILDREN

Many household products are packaged in primary colors with eye-catching artwork or logos to attract potential buyers. Unfortunately, these designs work too well — attracting infants and small children who cannot read the printed warning labels.

Ages 1 to 6 years — Children in this group have the highest risk of injury and death due to accidental poisoning. Endlessly curious, most poisonings occur while exploring — that is, shaking, spilling, smelling, tasting and wiping of hands on skin or clothing.

Ages 5 to 10 years — This is the time when youngsters want to "help Mommy." Children at these ages are often accidentally poisoned



MOST ACCIDENTAL POISONINGS in small children occur while exploring. The bright colors and eye-catching artwork used to package household products can be as attractive to children, who cannot read the warning labels, as they are to potential buyers.

while trying to clean with household products.

Teens — Today, one out of five children try "huffing" — sniffing household products to get high — by the time they reach the eighth grade. Faced with peer pressure, many teens may not even be aware that the activity is poisonous. Be sure children of all ages are aware of the dangers of huffing, including asphyxiation, brain damage and death.

ADULTS AND SENIORS

Believe it or not, plain old misuse is the most common cause of accidental poisoning among adults. They are usually guilty of failing to read the instructions carefully and take heed of warn-

ing labels on the products they use. Big mistake.

Mistaken identity has been called the "accidental poisoning plague" of the elderly. Reading labels in the dark without glasses, or reaching for a medication that has been moved from its usual place only to pick up something else accidentally are the usual culprits.

Another source of accidental poisonings in these groups is sharing medications with family and friends. Medicines prescribed to one person for one ailment should never be used by another person, even if they have a similar

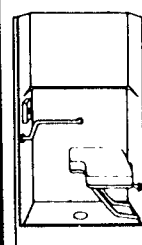
complaint.

TIPS TO SAVE LIVES

- Leave the original labels on all products, and read the label carefully before using.
- Always leave the light on when giving or taking medicine. Check the dosage every time.
- Be sure to clean out the medicine cabinet periodically.
- Check with local authorities for instructions on how to safely dispose of household and car care products.
- Use child-resistant packaging properly by closing the container securely after use.
- Keep all chemicals and medicines locked up and out of sight.
- When products are in use, never let young children out of your sight, even if you must take them along when answering the phone or doorbell.

The Labelit Poison Foundation recommends that the best way to prevent accidental poisonings is to remove the poison from the home entirely. Non-toxic alternatives are now available for a number of household care needs.

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What you should do if poisoning occurs

Your first step in any incident is to remain calm and call 9-1-1 if the victim is unconscious or is having convulsions or difficulty breathing.

• Ingested or swallowed poison — Gently remove any remaining poison from the mouth. Call a poison control center for further advice. Do not wait for symptoms to appear and never make the victim vomit without the advice of a poisoning expert. If you have to go to the hospital, take the substance with you for identification.

• Syrup of Ipecac, an extract derived from a Central American plant, is the fastest and safest way to induce vomiting. Do not use unless instructed, some substances should not be brought back up, like kerosene and drain cleaners.

• Skin exposure — Remove any contaminated clothing, using gloves to protect yourself. Wash the affected area with lots of cool (room temperature), soapy water. Wash the contaminated clothing separately from other clothing.

• Eye exposure — Immediately flush the affected eye(s) with a gentle, continuous flow of room-temperature water for 15 minutes for each eye. Rinse from the top of the nose toward the side of the face, away from the other eye. Do not use eye drops.

• Poisonous spiders and snakes can be a problem. Never use a tourniquet. Try to identify what bit you and call a poison control center.



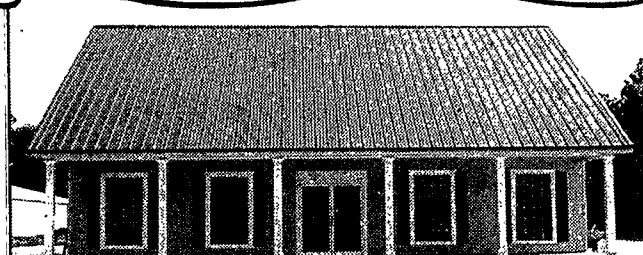
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Views -- regiment

Pascagoula.

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Wednesday, April 8th 1863

... Planned expedition to Pascagoula to capture Confederate troops said to be in possession of the place in a small force. Embarked on Steamer Gen'l Banks with 180 men. ... Steamed up the Sound to Horn Island leaving Ship Island at 3 p.m.

Had the 12 lb. howitzer ... with nine rounds of shell and nine rounds of grape [canister]— Came to anchor off Horn Island, intending to go into Pascagoula early tomorrow morning...

Thursday, April 9th 1863

Left Horn Island this A.M. ... steamed up to Round Island when we found the U.S. Gunboat Jackson blockading the Pascagoula River. Brought her letters and orders to join our expedition and open fire in case we were repulsed.

Together steamed for Pascagoula and made the town at 9 o'clock ... when I landed two Companies ... and took possession of the Hotel, hoisted the American colors upon the Cupola and threw out pickets one half mile ... of the Hotel.

After taking possession of the Hotel, I ordered the colors to be hoisted, and made fast. We had hardly thrown out pickets when the look-out gave the alarm that the Confederate Cavalry were coming... I myself saw them

from the Cupola of the Hotel coming down the Mobile Road in heavy force with banners waving, cutlass's flailing, evidently intending to make an immediate attack.

I immediately ordered the Re-treat to be beaten, in order to mass my forces at the Hotel. ... The Cavalry came upon the ex-treme left in large force outnumbering us five to one and commenced the attack. Company B gave them a number of volleys when they fell back and came down the right upon Major Dumas and Capt. Villevert and myself... This firing was rapid and ex-celent but our men stood fast, and though greatly outnumbered and with-out cover succeeded in fully repulsing them.

They formed again and came around the Hotel in the extreme right where they found Lieut. Jones with a part of Company - six men - He succeeded in emptying many of their saddles and driving them back. Up to this time we had lost one man killed and five wounded whereas the enemy had lost a large number in killed and wounded.

Capt. Carter was now attacked on the extreme left, a large number of Infantry having occupied the houses and being between him and the Hotel, attacked by almost overwhelming numbers both of Infantry and Cavalry, - he slowly retired to the end of a wharf leading out into the sound and off into the extreme right. Here he maintained a contin-uous firing for an hour when I sent boats and had him brought to the Steamer.

This was at 12 o'clock. Skirmishes were constantly kept up as often as the enemy saw fit to come within the range of our guns from the Wharf and Hotel - The woods here but a few yards in the rear of our position and they kept within such cover and fired constantly upon us.

I had expected up to this hour that the Gunboat Jackson would have opened with shell upon the woods in our front where were stationed large forces of Cavalry and Infantry with-in sight but beyond the range of our guns. I asked Capt. Manton for God's sake to go aboard and ask the Army Officer to commence firing. From the distance that my boat was obliged to be at the wharf, my Howitzer was useless - she could not reach the enemy. They (the Confederates) were armed with Sharps Revolving Rifles and had a great advantage over us in range.

The Gunboat now fired three shell, but with no effect, appearing to care little whether we were overcome or not. - I then ordered my men to hold the place until we could recover our wounded and dead which we did.

Friday, April 19th 1863

(Continuation from Thursday). We then brought off all of our dead and wounded to the boat and had driven the enemy back from the lines hold-ing our base through the whole fight I now ordered the troops who had struggled aboard the Steamer and those who had been engaged in free-ing wharf to sally out again and try to dislodge the Rebels from the

houses in the village.

Just at this time I discovered heavy reinforcements of Cav-alry coming down the Road, - and at the same moment the Gunboat Jackson unfortunately and mayhaps designedly, threw a shell into our col-umn moving out the wharf killing instantly five men and wounding seven, and leaving a huge gap in the wharf leading to the boat. This created con-fusion and discouragement ... and I immediately ordered the troops to rebuild the wharf which they did through a hot fire of the enemy, and to then fall back to the boat which they did in excellent order without losing ... but two men killed and a small number wounded. ... After the troops were aboard, I learned that still more and heavier Reinforcements had come up from Mobile with ar-tillery and Infantry, and as I had with me but two rounds of ammunition and 180 men with some seven officers and only a 12 lb Howitzer without shell, I concluded that it would be folly to make another attack as I could not depend upon the Gunboat. ...

Thus ended the only action the men of the 2nd Louisiana Native Guard Volunteers saw during their time at Ship Island. The duty on the island was dull and miserable to an extreme and Daniels' dairy brings it all to life. An interesting facet to the above account is that the Major Dumas written above was a mulatto whose full name was Alexandre Dumas.

Remember *The Count of Monte Cristo, The Three Musketeers, The Man in the Iron Mask?*

Garden -- Medallion Award

with the leaves thereof, to cool the heat of lust and to keep themselves chaste for a time.

It's doubtful that this is a marketing tool today for the vitex, but it is reassuring to know that great heirloom trees like the lilac chaste tree will be around for years to come because they are superior and Mississippi Medallion award winning, too. Shop at your local garden center now for best selections.

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

Continued from Page 1B

Norman Winter is a horticulturist with Mississippi State University's Extension Service. His office is located at the Central Mississippi Research and Extension Center at 1320 Seven Springs Road, Raymond, MS 39154. He can be heard weekdays at 7:19 a.m. on Public Radio in Mississippi.

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Planes

Continued from Page 1B

Each day campers were awaked by the playing of reveille at 7 a.m., signaling the opening of the airfield for those who wanted to fly ultralights, power chutes, or their own planes. By 7:15 a.m. the sky was filled with flying machines.

Each day at 2 p.m. the air show began with the flag jump and the playing of the National Anthem as jumpers flew the flag to the ground. Daily air shows lasted until 5 p.m. or so at which time private aircraft took over the skies again. (No One is allowed to land or take off during the air-show.)

This year, as every year, many visitors from the coast attended and volunteered at the show. Among these were Diamondhead resident Charlie Horton, who won first place in the Sun 60 class 1 Open flying his Piper Comanche at speeds of 194.79 mph over the course of 54 nautical miles.

Among the volunteers from our area were local machinist Mickey Whittenburg, who taught a welding course and Bob Hyatt, who worked as a flight line operator on the ultralight field. Whittenburg is building an experimental aircraft and Hyatt owns an ultralight. Both men fly out of Stennis International Airport in Kiln.

Next year's event will be held April 2-8. For information access their site at www.sun-n-fun.org.



Echo staff photo by Bennie Shallbetter
Bob Sell, left, and Tony Vaz, right, both of Diamondhead, with Michael Shallbetter, center.

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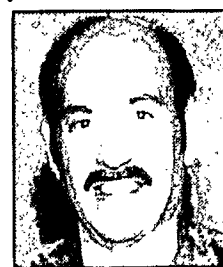
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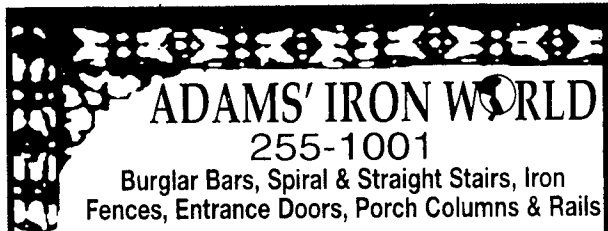
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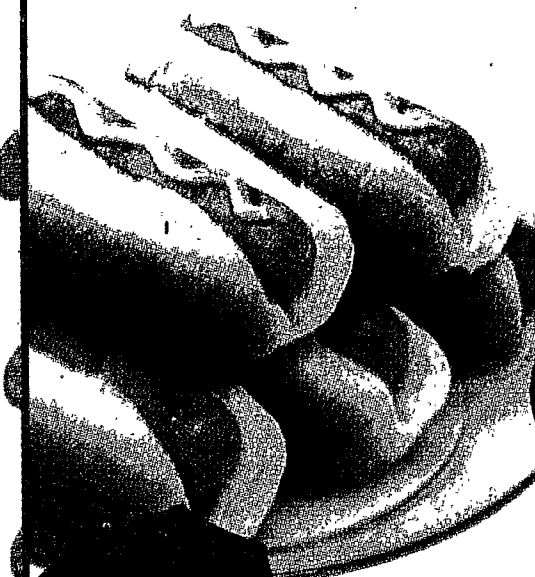


U.S.D.A. American
Fresh Pork
**Boston
Butt
Pork Roast**

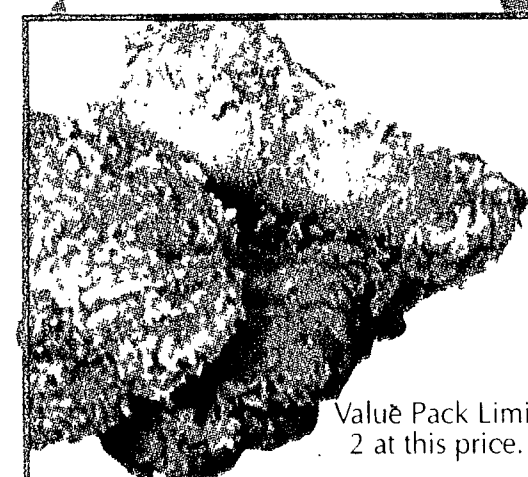
79¢
LB.
Value Pack

Bryan

ALL MEAT
**Bryan
Hot Dogs**



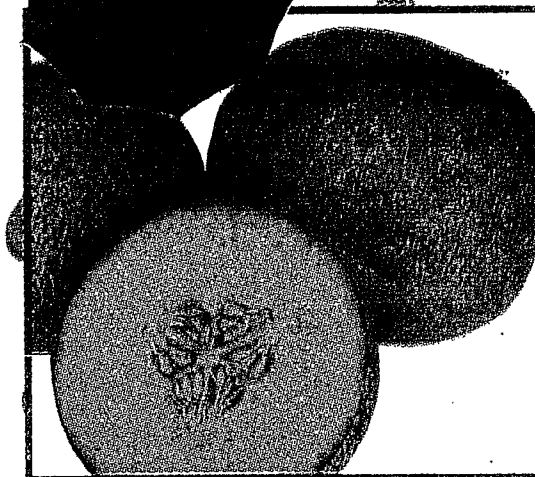
89¢
12 oz
Pkg.



USDA FRESH
**Fryer Leg
Quarters**

25¢
LB.

Value Pack Limit
2 at this price.



EXTRA LARGE
**Sweet
Cantaloupes**

88¢
Each



6 Pack 1/2 Lt. Bottles
**Coke, Barq's, Sprite,
or Dr. Pepper**

99¢

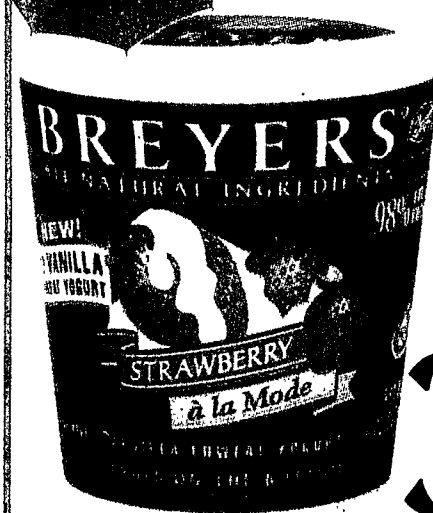
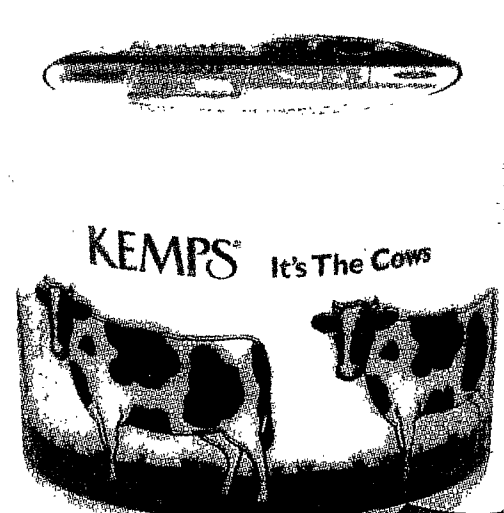


Limit one with each \$10.00 additional purchase. Example: \$50.00 purchase get 5 @ 99¢. \$80.00 purchase get 8 @ 99¢. Purchase below \$10.00 or No purchase special price will be \$1.99 limit 4.

ASST. FLAVORS
**Kemps
Ice Cream**

\$3.99

5 Qt.
Bucket



Asst. Flavors
**Breyers
Yogurt**

\$1.00
3 For Only
8oz Cup
Limit 12 at
this Price



**Sliced White
Bread**

\$1.00
2 For Only
20oz loaf

Assorted Varieties
**Pillsbury
Grand Biscuits**

89¢
Large
8ct Can



Why Pay More? Save With Our Top Quality Store Brands!